

THE TIMES

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20p

Tomorrow

Thatcher... As the Tories rally round at Blackpool, Fiona MacCarthy reviews Penny Junior's new biography of Margaret Thatcher.



...and Co Economic policy, employment, defence: the Tory timetable at the conference

Turning in The Times Profile: Radio 3

Turning out Stuart Jones and David Miller report on England's crucial European Championship match against Hungary in Budapest

Looking back 1984 and all that: a new look at Orwell's chilling words

Monetary growth on target

Monetary growth is back on target after the Government's main measure of money supply fell for the first time in four years. Sterling M3 fell half a percentage point last month. But state spending and borrowing are still well ahead of plans.

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Stock exchange backs reform

Members of the Stock Exchange voted overwhelmingly in favour of a resolution which will allow lay members to sit on the Council of the Stock Exchange for the first time.

Page 2

Howe happy

EEC ministers in Athens were able to agree only that reforms needed further detailed study by experts. Sir Geoffrey Howe alone detected real progress.

Earlier reports, page 6



There's a rumour about bringing STONING back...

LAW ORDER

New Jaguar

Jaguar unveiled its first open-topped sports car since the E-type went out of production.

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Airbus order

British Caledonian is the first airline to order the European Airbus A320. Three of the seven 150-seaters will be delivered in 1988.

China joins

China has been admitted to membership of the International Atomic Agency, which operates safeguards and inspections on civil nuclear reactors.

Page 7

Carson banned

Willie Carson, the former champion jockey, was suspended for 12 days by the Jockey Club for careless riding at Beverley last month.

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Police killers will serve at least 20 years - Brittan

● Minimum 20-year sentences are to be imposed on certain killers under proposals announced by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

● Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, has reaffirmed the Government's commitment to coal mining and disputed claims that it wants to destroy the industry.

● Miss Sara Keays, who is expecting Mr Cecil Parkinson's baby, narrowly missed becoming the Conservative candidate at the Southwark, Bermondsey by-election.

● Conservatives remain divided over whether Mr Parkinson should resign. He was praised for his election work and condemned as a "self-confessed adulterer".

● The Government is considering giving tenants of charities the right to buy their homes, Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing, announced.

● No workable alternative system of loyal taxation has emerged to replace rates, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Blackpool

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, presented the Conservative Party Conference at Blackpool yesterday with measures that will ensure that about five hundred hard-core killers and violent offenders will spend extended terms in prison.

But, in a highly delicate political operation, delivered before a notoriously hardline audience, Mr Brittan managed to temper his toughness with more than a touch of mercy for non-violent offenders. That mercy could lead eventually to an overall reduction of 2,000 in the prison population, which is now 44,163.

It was a measure of the Home Secretary's skill that by last night he had won the endorsement of right-wing Tory backbenchers and of Mr Robert Kilroy-Glik, the Labour chairman of the all-party Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group.

Mr Brittan failed to win a standing ovation, but the applause was adequate vindication of his balancing act. Representatives appeared willing to suspend judgment despite their undoubted frustration at Parliament's failure to reintroduce capital punishment.

Those who killed night-watchmen, security guards, or members of post office and public transport staffs could also expect "very long periods in prison indeed". Life sentences, too, would mean life when the release of an offender would pose a risk to the public.

The decisions did not stop there. Mr Brittan also announced his intention to block parole for all those sentenced to more than five years for an offence of violence against the person or of drug trafficking; and to increase the maximum sentence for those convicted of carrying firearms in furtherance of crime from 14 years to life.

He will also ask Parliament to legislate to give the Attorney-General power to refer over-convicted cases, such as rape, to the Court of Appeal. The court would have no power to alter sentences passed down by judges in other courts, but its review would be expected to have a deterrent effect on judges whose leniency had been questioned publicly and formally.

Mr Brittan told the conference: "Together, these measures

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Union steps up fight against Telecom

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Further disruptive action affecting government and business communications will be taken by the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) this week as part of their fight against the privatisation of British Telecom (BT).

Leaders of the union were last night called to a meeting with Sir George Jefferson, chairman of BT to discuss deteriorating industrial relations.

By yesterday between 2,000 and 2,500 members of the union were in dispute with BT. Around 1,600 have been involved in action in international telephone exchanges.

The rest have been taking action against Mercury, the private communications network.

Details of the new disruptive action were being kept secret by the executive of POEU, but international satellite links and select operations are known to be prime targets. City institutions who may be involved in the intended flotation of BT can expect to be singled out.

British Telecom reported yesterday that international telephone exchanges were back to normal with the help of senior management. But the union contended that there was widespread disruption affecting the Middle and Far East and Africa. The situation was deteriorating, POEU said.

The 1600 engineers in international exchanges were sent home at the end of last week after working to rule since the previous Monday. This Monday many of them refused to sign a document pledging that they would obey management instructions and were then suspended.

The rest of the trade unions in dispute work mainly in the three London inland exchanges. Some of these have been sent home for refusing to connect the BT network to Mercury. Others were deemed to be taking industrial action by management for refusing to sign the document.

Hold centre ground, Walker tells Tories

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Peter Walker gave a warning yesterday that the Conservative Party must retain its position in the centre ground of politics or risk losing the next general election.

In a plea to the Government to present a more caring public image, Mr Walker made a powerful statement of the additional Conservative "one nation" values, told the party to apply them to the 1980s and highlighted the divisions in society.

"The Conservative Party must be the party of national unity or it is nothing", Mr Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, told a Tory Reform Group fringe meeting at the party conference in Blackpool.

The speech was the first of a series by leading "wets" this week urging the Government to emphasize its concern for the poor, needy, homeless, and other disadvantaged groups, and to come to terms with the public expenditure implications of the increasing number of people receiving state benefits.

It reflects concern among many Tory MPs over the Government's handling of the recently announced health service manpower cuts and the fear that its public face may be hardening. Today, Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Cabinet minister, will continue on the same line when he speaks on the theme "Is Toryism Dead?" to another fringe meeting.

Mr Walker said Labour was bound to become a more effective opponent than it was in the 1970s.

He spoke of the areas where there were still two nations not one - the major cities, where the poor and jobless festered in inner city, while the affluent moved to the suburbs; on the factory floor "where we have gone from rule by shop steward in the sixties and seventies to rule by management diktat in the recession of the eighties; between North and South; and between black and white where those with black or brown skins had less chance of a job, more of a slum, and sometimes, no chance of good education."

Mr Walker echoed Mr Francis Pym's weekend speech when he said that government and employers must see that the swift advance of technology created a fuller life.

"We must show that we can lead Britain into the future, without forsaking the best of the past, and that we can ease the pain of transition for those who are hurt by change."

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Mr Brittan announcing his measures at Blackpool (Photograph: Brian Harris)

Miss Keays 'nearly the Bermondsey candidate'

By Richard Dowden

Miss Sara Keays, Mr Cecil Parkinson's former secretary who is expecting his child in January, narrowly missed becoming the Conservative parliamentary candidate in last February's by-election in Southwark, Bermondsey, after the local party executive was persuaded to reopen the selection process.

Miss Keays had lost the nomination by one vote to Mr Peter Davis. A week after that selection conference, Mr Robert Mottish, the Labour MP, resigned, and forced a by-election. Mr Davis decided that business commitments prevented him from fighting the by-election and resigned.

Some members of the local party executive, some sources say a majority, wanted Miss Keays to assume the candidature. However, at a meeting of the nine members of the executive on November 2, attended by the party agent, Miss Rose Freeman, and an official from the Conservative Central Office, it was decided to go through a full selection process.

A short list was drawn up with three names: Mr John Maples, Mr Tony Patterson and Mr Robert Hughes. Mr Hughes, the eventual candidate, had been asked to put his

name forward by Mr Ian MacLeod, the area party chairman. Miss Keays's name was not on that initial list but was added to it after the party had interviewed between 30 and 40 potential candidates.

Miss Betty North, chairman of the Southwark and Bermondsey Constituency Conservative Association, said yesterday that she could not remember whether the representative from Central Office had argued in favour of reopening selection or simply adopting Miss Keays.

Among the reasons given by local party members for Miss Keays's failure to secure the nomination are that they did not want a woman to stand against Mr Peter Tatchell, the Labour candidate; that she did not know enough about inner cities; that she was using the candidature to gain experience and that she intended to move on.

However, her supporters felt that she was the "local" candidate of a constituency party that was strongly independent and this should have earned her the nomination.

Mr MacLeod, London area chairman, stressed the need for a strong candidate in urging Mr Hughes to run. He pointed

out that the Conservative party had had two bad by-election results, at Crosby and in Peckham, where weak candidates were thought to have played a part.

Mr Ian MacLeod, chairman of the Greater London Area Conservatives, said in Blackpool last night: "At no time did the local party receive instructions from me that anything other than the proper procedures for reselection should take place."

"There was no question of any second-placed person, whoever that might be, being offered the chance."

"In accordance with National Union model rules a complete reselection would be necessary. Constituency parties jealously guard their autonomy. It is common knowledge that any 'direction' from Central Office is tantamount to a kiss of death."

The continuing division of opinion within the Conservative Party as to whether Mr Cecil Parkinson should stay in office or resign was painfully exposed yesterday (Julian Haviland, Our Political Editor, writes).

His achievements as chairman were warmly applauded by most representatives on the

Continued on back page, col 6

Martin jailed for 25 years

David Martin, who spent nearly three months on the run after wounding a policeman, was jailed for 25 years yesterday.

At the Central Criminal Court Mr Justice Kilner-Brown told him: "Those who carry loaded guns in order to shoot their way out of impending arrest or with that intention must expect very severe sentences indeed and that is what you are going to get."

The jury of seven men and five women, after 11 hours of deliberation, had found Martin guilty on four charges and acquitted him on the remaining 10.

The judge gave him a 15-year sentence for causing grievous bodily harm to police constable Nicholas Carr with intent to resist arrest on August 5 last year; and 10 years for having two firearms with intent to resist arrest on September 15, 1982. He directed that those sentences should run consecutively.

Martin, aged 36, of Crawford Place, Marylebone, London, was also given 10 years for the theft of £25,000 from a security van in London's Cannon Street on July 29 last year, and five years for burglary at offices in Bonhill Street, City of London, between January 18 and 25 this year - both sentences to run concurrently.

Earlier, in the 15-day trial a charge of attempting to murder PC Carr was dropped on the judge's direction. He described as callous Martin's threat to put a second bullet into the officer.

Martin showed no emotion as the verdicts and sentences were announced.

A skilled burglar, who admitted to the jury that he often dressed as a woman, Martin intended never to be returned to jail where he has already spent a quarter of his life. He said he was prepared to do anything - even shoot himself - to avoid arrest.

When finally tracked down in a London underground tunnel on January 28 this year, he surrendered in a "suicide walk" defiantly refusing to raise his arms in the air as instructed by armed police officers.

Mr Lawrence, QC, defending, said Martin tended towards suicide, partly because of his obsession with his girlfriend and partly because he could not stand the thought of another long term in prison.

After the case, Martin's father, Mr Ralph Martin, said outside the court: "If I had a gun I'd go and shoot the judge myself." He said the sentences were "ridiculous".

Mr Martin had sat in the public gallery throughout the trial and when the sentences were passed today he leapt to his feet, apparently trying to snatch a glimpse of his son before he was led away. He was told by a policeman to sit down.

Contempt for authority, page 3

Police kill Korean in Burma

Rangoon (Reuters) - Burmese police claimed to have killed one Korean terrorist, captured another and to be seeking a third, after the bomb blast here in which 20 people died.

A government announcement last night gave no details of the Koreans, and did not say whether they came from North or South Korea.

The captured Korean was seriously wounded when a grenade he tried to throw at his pursuers exploded at Pan-daung Creek in eastern Rangoon on Monday night. The alarm had been raised by local residents, who reported seeing a man swimming down the creek.

A second incident occurred when villages in Thakutpin, six miles north-west of Rangoon, informed police about two suspicious-looking foreigners. The two men were arrested but one of them managed to throw a grenade which wounded three policemen. Police shot and killed him, but the other Korean escaped.

Photograph, page 5

Leading article, page 15

Ulster yard seeks 'lost' £4m contract

From Our Correspondent Belfast

Harland & Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilders, are likely to make a bid today to take over the £4m share of a Ministry of Defence order for the Falkland Islands which Sunderland Shipbuilders, the Weirside subsidiary of British Shipbuilders has surrendered because of a three-week unofficial strike.

Only last week H & W announced that they had a separate share of the project to build a floating harbour for Port Stanley. The entire "flexiport" is due for delivery in only 14 weeks.

Yesterday, Harland & Wolff chairman Mr John Parker said: "We have already been asked whether we could take on Sunderland Shipbuilders' share. Clearly, it is something we will have to decide within 24 hours. My main concern is whether we could complete it within 14 weeks without prejudicing work on the part of the project we already have."

"Public memories are short and if we missed the delivery date people would not recall that it was because Sunderland Shipbuilders had a strike, it would simply be noted as Harland & Wolff falling down", said Mr Parker.

He said he was to spend the afternoon seeing whether a local Northern Ireland consortium could be put together.

Jobs at the Pallion yard in Sunderland are certain to be lost when the strike ends. Mr Eric Welsh, the managing director of the company, said yesterday.

Three initiatives by the Confederation of Shipbuilding & Engineering Unions to end the deadlock have failed and the 2,000 strikers, angry about a productivity payment made to 40 crane drivers at the yard, have ignored pleas to return to work.

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Packing up troubles in a Marine's kitbag

From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, Saros Bay, Turkey

Many Royal Marines on a Nato exercise in Turkey are carrying up to £150 worth of their own equipment because they say their standard issue kit is unsatisfactory.

Several complained of a combat boot first issued last year, which they claim flaps apart after a few months. That was demonstrated yesterday by a member of 40 Commando, who lay in a Turkish field and put a knife between the sole and upper.

The Marines are taking part in an exercise called "Display."

Determination" and are advancing inland after an amphibious landing with Turkish forces on the northern shores of Saros Bay, within sight of the Gallipoli peninsula.

Apart from concern with their boots, several have bought their own rucksacks for about £80 because they say the standard issue bag is too small and uncomfortable.

Other complaints concern the solid fuel stove, which they say is smoky and smelly, and waterproof equipment. Some have bought camping gas

stoves for £15 and waterproof jackets for £40. With other privately-bought equipment such as mess tins and socks, the outlay can total £150.

Some even spend a further £50 special underwear when operating in Arctic conditions. But the boot is the really painful story for the Marines. They claim that although 17,000 pairs were rejected last year because of manufacturing defects, the new ones still fall apart.

A Royal Marine spokesman in Britain admitted there were some drawbacks in equipment, but added: "In general our total package is better than most armies. In 14 years' service I have never had to buy any equipment."

He said one of the problems was that they had to compromise because they could not use Arctic equipment in the Mediterranean and vice versa. He added that a new rucksack that could be separated to enable a man to change rapidly into fighting order was to be issued soon.

Social workers vote to step up action in pay and hours battle

By Alan Hamilton

Delegates representing 25,000 residential social workers yesterday voted to extend their industrial action which has disrupted the lives of many hundreds of children in local authority care throughout Britain.

At a conference called by the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO) in London, the 250 representatives voted overwhelmingly that, if a meeting with the local authority employers next Monday did not produce a satisfactory pay offer, they would give union branches the authority to call selective strikes, work strictly to office hours, resist the employment of temporary staff, ban the movement of children to other homes, and refuse to sleep overnight in the homes where they are employed.

For the past four weeks the social workers, who staff council homes for children, old people and the mentally handicapped, have been operating an overtime ban and a ban on new admissions in support of a long-standing claim for a shorter working week and extra payments for shift and weekend working.

The local authority employers' joint body said yesterday that it deeply regretted the decision, which would increase

the risk of harm to those in care least able to look after themselves. Yesterday's union decision was preceded by a 24-hour strike by all 270 residential social workers from 23 local authority homes in Sheffield.

In the London Borough of Lambeth, one of the most seriously affected by the dispute because of the heavy demand on social services and the high number of unfilled vacancies, local union officials have admitted that children have on several occasions been left in their homes over weekends with no adult supervision, and only the telephone number of a senior social worker to call in an emergency.

Mr Hugh Williams, spokesman for the Lambeth branch of NALGO, said that "on three or four occasions" children aged 13 and upwards had been left unattended for weekends, under the nominal supervision of a resident of the home, aged 19.

It had first happened at the council's home at West Norwood, but had been repeated at other homes which both the union and Lambeth Council declined to name. "We are very unhappy about this, but it is up to the council to provide supervision," Mr Williams said. Lambeth has closed 11 children's homes for the duration of the dispute, and has

placed about 120 children with foster parents, or in privately-run charitable homes, sometimes in the country away from London.

Mr Michael Blick, chairman of NALGO's local government committee, said yesterday that if there was an escalation after next Monday's talks, it would be entirely the employers' responsibility. The union, he said, had tried to minimize the effect on those who lived in council homes, while maximizing the cost and inconvenience to the council.

Some local authorities, notably Southwark and Staffordshire, have been trying to hire large numbers of temporary staff to help to run their homes during the dispute. Lambeth's policy has been not to hire any outside workers, but to find the children alternative accommodation where possible.

So far the dispute has had no noticeable effect on the borough's homes for the elderly and the mentally handicapped, because fewer of the relevant social worker grades are employed in them. However, some mentally handicapped children in Lambeth have been moved from children's homes.

Some local union officials have been surprised at the hard line taken by the left-wing council in Lambeth.

'MI6 holiday' plot thickens

By Richard Evans and Richard Ford

A hoax holiday competition involving a middle-aged Dublin couple, Britain's security services and Irish terrorists turned into an Irish "who-dunnit" mystery last night.

Was it MI6 which set up Mr and Mrs Tony Hayde as the contest winners in order to extract information on Irish terrorist groups while the couple enjoyed their "prize" under the Torremolinos sun?

Or was it a deep-laid plot by the enemy to discredit British Intelligence?

From yesterday's revelations, it was possible to choose either conclusion.

Certainly, the allegations against MI6 gained strength when it was learnt that letters sent out in connection with the "free holiday prize" ostensibly from a holiday company called Casuro in fact bore the telephone number listed in internal Post Office records as belonging to No 60 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, the London "station" of MI6.

And the address on the letters was merely that of a mailbox company service, on the other side of London.

[Yesterday a call to that telephone number, 222 7443 was greeted by an answering machine.]

One of the letters went to a reputable Dublin firm, Melia

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Sale room

Birds show diminishing returns

Collectors of English watercolours demonstrated forcefully that they knew what they wanted at Christie's yesterday, bidding wildly beyond expectations for some items and leaving others alone. Decorative watercolours of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were the top runners.

A private collector paid £10,800 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000) for an Archibald Thorburn watercolour of "A woodcock in the snow" dated 1924. It is an excellent example of the bird illustrator's work and makes a nice picture too, with the woodcock nestled in the snowy grass under a holly tree.

Christie's, however, had expected a covey of birds to fetch more than one bird. Thorburn's "The morning call" dated 1911, depicting a group of grouse waking up in the mountain heather, sold for £8,100 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000) to Richard Green, the London dealer.

Albert Goodwin, Helen Allingham and Miles Birker Foster were the other favourites with Goodwin's "Westminster from a house top" of 1915 selling for £10,260 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000) and Allingham's "Near Haslemere" for £5,480 (estimate £2,500 to £3,500).

These pictures all came from private sources and had not been seen on the market before.

At Phillips a fine late seventeenth century enamel and gold chased watch sold for £29,700 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) to a private collector. It is signed by Jean Pierre Huad who worked with his brother for the court of Brandenburg.

Sotheby's printed book sale made £43,860. Quaritch, the book dealer, paid £1,155 (estimate £250 to £300) for a series of 26 bookseller's catalogues issued by Payne and Foss between 1799 and 1840.



High stakes: James Mallett, aged 14, from Gloucester the youngest winner of Britain's Monopoly finals, meeting Mr Gerald Marks commercial councillor at the US Embassy in London, before heading for the World Monopoly Championships in Miami.

Miners move closer to overtime ban

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A national overtime ban may be mounted in the mining industry over the issue of pit closures, although there are signs that the National Union of Mineworkers will accept the coal board's "final" 5.2 per cent pay offer.

All branches of the union in the traditionally-moderate Lancashire coalfield have voted to support an overtime ban, the miners' customary way of starting a strike, and the militant coalfields such as Yorkshire, south Wales and Scotland are expected to follow.

A final decision on whether to engage in limited industrial action over the coal board's programme of accelerated pit closures will be taken at a special delegates' conference in London on October 21. Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners, said last night: "I think it will happen, because the board are just riding roughshod over us."

The union's executive meets in Sheffield tomorrow to determine its next move in the battle over pit closures, which the union seems powerless to prevent at present. In the past year, the board has shut, merged or is in the process of closing 23 pits and coking plants with the loss of 11,028 jobs.

There is less likelihood of a dispute over pay, however. The Lancashire area council of the union has recommended to branches that the men accept the board's offer of increases ranging from £4.90 to £6.80 a week. Lancashire is considered a reliable bargainer of opinion in the coalfields and acceptance of the offer there suggests that it will go through nationally.

The Prime Minister has rejected Mr Neil Kinnock's first request, as Leader of the Opposition, for an early Commons debate on the health service.

Yesterday Mr Kinnock sent a strongly-worded request to Mrs Thatcher to reconsider her decision. He added that if the Prime Minister would not give way, the Opposition would use one of its days to hold a debate.

Recording his disappointment at Mrs Thatcher's response, Mr Kinnock wrote to 10 Downing Street yesterday: "You appear to think that your Government has a credible record in health service matters and yet you will not give government time to presenting that record."

Mr Kinnock quotes recent press reports of Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, feeling obliged to address Conservative MPs on the matter and adds: "But it seems that he would not, without the prompting of the Labour Opposition and the facility offered by an opposition day, be fulfilling the same obligation to the public."

Last night Mr Kinnock was awaiting a reply from the Prime Minister.

A reproach to Mr Kinnock for hesitating to use opposition time to debate the health service was given last night by Mr Alan Beith, Liberal Chief Whip. He said: "If we had control of opposition time we should certainly use it for that purpose."

Why Britain wanted to bar Shamir from Palestine

No. 57 Top Secret.

Your telegram No. 28.

Jewish terrorists at Jibuti.

Yesterday and Zuhrowsky are among the most fanatical terrorist leaders and it is considered that imprisonment or detention is the only satisfactory means of preventing them.

Top secret: An Extract from the telegram dated 12th January 1948 urging detention of "Yesternitsky".

By Peter Hemmery

A Foreign Office file describing Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the new Prime Minister of Israel, as a "most fanatical terrorist" who should be prevented from fomenting "outrages" against British troops, is available for inspection at the Public Record Office in Kew, west London. It is preserved in documents on the last days of British Mandate in Palestine.

Mr Shamir was a leader of Lehi (Fighters for the Freedom of Israel), better known in Britain as the "Stern Gang", a breakaway faction of Irgun, which used terrorist methods against British forces in Palestine.



Sir Alan Cunningham: Feared further outrages

Paris using forged Dominican passports. Diplomatic pressure was applied to the French to keep them in Djibouti.

Lieutenant-General Sir Alan Cunningham, British High Commissioner in Palestine, his forces dwindling as the end of the Mandate approached, was adamant that "Yesternitsky" and Zuhrowsky should be kept out.

On January 12, 1948, he sent a top secret telegram to Mr Arthur Creech Jones, the Colonial Secretary, with copies

to the Foreign Office and MI5. It read:

"Yesternitsky and Zuhrowsky are among the most fanatical terrorist leaders and it is considered that imprisonment or detention is the only satisfactory means of preventing them from planning and carrying out further outrages. Their departure from Jibuti for any destination would be a matter of grave concern to me, since once at large they would, I am sure, quickly make their way to a place from which they could organize further terrorist activities."

In an interview with Lord Bethell, historian of the last days of the Mandate, Mr Shamir defended the Lehi tactic of assassinating individuals, mentioning the case of Sergeant T. G. Martin, the British military policeman who had penetrated the rabbi's disguise worn by him in July 1946. Lehi later assassinated Martin.

Contempt for authority led David Martin to 25-year jail sentence

By John Withers

When David Martin was in prison, one story relates, the guards would regularly find his cell door open in the morning with Martin lying on his bunk, gazing at the ceiling and whistling nonchalantly.

The story illustrates two important influences in Martin's life that led him to notoriety and yesterday's prison sentence of 25 years: a remarkable ability with locks and an overriding contempt for authority.

The first facilitated a life of crime and the second, when coupled with a fascination with guns, turned him from a fleeting period into Britain's most wanted man.

But Martin's sudden elevation to the front pages came not as a result of his shooting of Police Constable Nicholas Carr on his daring escape from Marylebone Magistrates' Court, but because another man, Stephen Waldorf, was mistakenly shot by police instead of him.

It was that shooting, and the impending trial of two policemen, which cast a shadow over the trial of Martin and focused attention on a man who would normally get only a few column inches.

Everyone who knows Martin agrees that he is a strange, complicated personality. The police, used to dealing with "ordinary villains", were perplexed by his self-confessed transvestite coupled with an apparently violent nature.

They also found it hard to understand his total disregard for his own safety. One policeman said: "I couldn't relate to him. He's a cold guy, very calculating. He's different, intriguing even."

An acquaintance, asked what pushed Martin into crime, replied: "He's got a grudge against society and he vents it by breaking laws."

That grudge, which came through in his resentment and sarcasm, while he was in the witness box, stems from Martin's personality and his deep grievance over an eight-year prison sentence he received for forgery and fraud.

According to the acquaintance, his attitude then became: "If they give me that sort of sentence for a trifle, I'll behave like a real criminal."

While he was inside he never accepted the prison regime and in 1974 took part in a mass escape from Brixton but he was recaptured in a taxi in Streatham. He received an extra 12 months and went on to serve a total of nine years, earning no remission.

While in prison he made 10 moves, and spent much of his time in top-security jails including Parkhurst in the Isle of Wight. Prison undoubtedly made a strong impact on the prosecution, may have made him prepared to use any means, including guns, to prevent his arrest and further confinement.

Before that Martin had drifted into petty crime, gradually getting convicted for more serious offences. The only child of a close family in north London, where his father was a plumber and fitter, Martin was caught stealing petrol and a motor cycle when he was 15. Two years later he spent three months in a detention centre for punching a policeman during a fight outside a club. At school he passed O levels in physics, metalwork and technical drawing and worked later as a motor mechanic.

In 1969 he was sentenced to 21 months for fraud and handling stolen goods, and in 1973 he was sentenced to eight years. Martin emerged in September, 1981, and within months was again drawn to

crime, but this time he started handling guns.

He used his ability with locks to break into several premises and became involved in video piracy. Then a friend suggested, according to Martin, that he take part in a cash snatch from a security van. It was soon after that raid, in which Martin said he did not know his accomplice had guns, that he shot PC Carr during a struggle.

Before the shooting Martin gave the police the name of David Demain, a pseudonym that he often used. In retrospect, as Martin pointed out in the box, it seemed surprising that the police took another six weeks to trace him to his flat in Crawford Place, just off the Edgware Road in west London. He said his driving licence was registered in the name of Demain but apparently no check was made.

When Martin was challenged outside his flat he drew two handguns and was shot in the neck by police. Despite this wound he continued fighting - hoping to be "finished off", he told the court.

Martin's apparent death wish was a constant theme in the trial. He told the jury he had considered jumping in front of a Tube train during the chase before his second arrest and had hidden a knife in his mouth with the intention of cutting his throat.

The prosecution tried to depict him as a highly intelligent and dangerous criminal, but that view was disputed by a friend who said that Martin was never a killer, just someone who liked to convince people he was ruthless.

"He simply doesn't care", he added. "David is resigned to going back to prison." The difference this time, though, is that Martin is reputed to have told his guards that he will not remain locked up for long.



Rich pickings: The first bins of grapes at Waldron Vineyards, Heathfield, East Sussex, showing the rare but sought after noble rot, promise a bumper harvest of fine quality. Mrs Gay Biddlecombe right, a cofounder of the business, says. She is being helped by Miss Debbie Pennington, left. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Plan to cut Crown Court delays

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A "profound change" in the way criminals are handled is to be tried out in six Crown Court centres.

New procedures, being introduced for a six-month experiment starting on November 1, are intended to cut delays by exchanging more information between prosecution and defence.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, launching the pilot project, says: "The scheme should stimulate people to prepare cases as soon after commitment as possible, so that the plea may be discovered and the real issues which will concern the jury may be identified."

Lord Justice Watkins, whose working party on the criminal trial produced the proposals, says that in the first eight months of this year, compared with a similar period in 1982, the number of cases committed to the Crown Court increased from 42,890 to 47,168, enough extra work to keep a court occupied for 27 years.

The working party's report says the parties already give the court some information for listing purposes. "We have adapted and expanded the present Crown Court listing information form so as to include a wider range of information."

One form to be filled in by the defendant's solicitor is intended to inform everyone as early as possible whether a case will be fought.

Defence counsel will fill in a second form requiring a commitment to a plea of guilty or not guilty in advance of the trial.

A third form not intended for use in all cases, will be issued on the instruction of the judges at a Crown Court centre and filled in by counsel.

The pilot project will take place at the following Crown Court centres: Central Criminal Court, Acton, Bristol, Carlisle, Chester and Warwick.

Overcharging lawyer not guilty of fraud

Mr Glanville Davies, a solicitor who overcharged a client by £131,000 was not guilty of deliberate fraud, a High Court judge said yesterday.

The Welsh solicitor, a former member of the Council of the Law Society, had sent his client, Leslie Parsons, a bill for £198,000. That was later reduced to £67,000 by the High Court costing official.

Now Mr Parsons is asking Mr Justice Vinelott to order that Mr Davies be struck off. Mr Davies's counsel, Mr Michael Turner, QC, said yesterday that although Mr Davies was not resisting the striking-off move - which he did not consent but accepted as

TV satellite set for weekend debut

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

The first satellite available to beam commercial television pictures into Britain and most of western Europe is expected to become fully operational on Saturday.

The European Communication Satellite (ECS1), was launched successfully in June from Kourou, in French Guyana by the Ariane rocket of the European Space Agency. Two of its channels have been allocated to Britain: Satellite Television, which is 65 per cent owned by News International, has one; a customer for the other is being selected.

Three days later - on October 18 - the Ariane rocket, again launched from French

Mothers 'want more advice on birth'

By Diane Gackert

More than a third of new mothers are dissatisfied with their labour and delivery according to a birth survey.

Fewer than half of the 7,500 women surveyed felt they could ask doctors all the questions they wanted, and one in ten felt she could ask hardly any questions at all. Parents magazine reported yesterday.

The survey welcomed improvements in medical care and consultation. More than 80 per cent of fathers were present at the birth, compared with 72 per cent in 1981, when the magazine conducted its last survey. Most of those who were absent were at home taking care of older children.

But mothers felt a lack of essential advice. "Having a baby in Britain today can be a wonderful or a disappointing experience", the magazine said. "In general, mothers wanted more information, more choice

in what happens to them and to be treated as individuals."

More than 40 per cent said they received no advice on taking medicines, 50 per cent no information on maternity benefits and 60 per cent no advice on alcohol consumption. Younger and first-time mothers were found to be especially in distress, and relied twice as much on books and pamphlets as on the advice of medical staff.

The lack of choice over hospitals, painkillers and delivery methods was a widespread complaint. Fewer than half the women had a choice of hospital, the survey reported.

The survey also revealed variations between regions. For example, ante-natal clinics in Scotland and the South-west had the shortest waiting times and there was more choice of hospitals in London.

Firm halves price of video film

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

A leading video company is to reduce the price of a recent box office hit film on video cassette by about half in an attempt to encourage people to buy rather than rent video films.

CIC Video, owned by Paramount and Universal Films, is to offer Steven Spielberg's *Raiders of the Lost Ark* at £19.99 or less compared with a price of up to £45, when it goes on sale before Christmas.

At present the video market is almost exclusively rental, and cut-throat competition among high street traders has meant "unrealistically low" rental charges, according to Mr Laurie Hall, managing director of CIC Video. Charges on average are down to £1.50 to £2, and in some cases as low as 50 to 75p for a night's rental.

"And to think I might still be bashing away at Mr Moody's document revisions."



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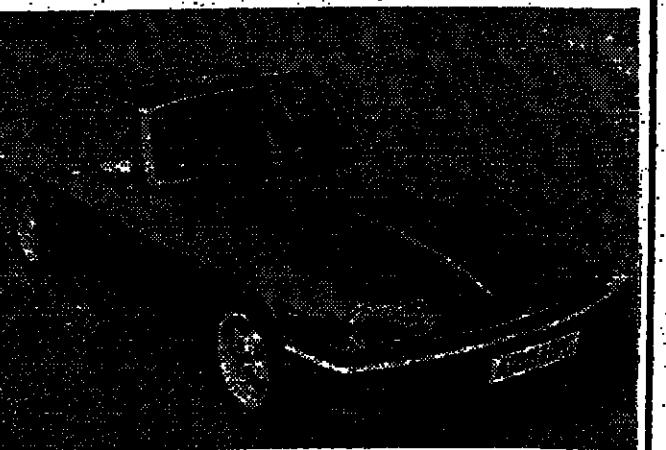
140-154 Borough High Street, London SE1 1LH. Tel: 01-407 3191.

Jaguar unveils open-top

Jaguar Cars today launches its first open-top sports car since the famous E-type went out of production nine years ago. The XJ-S 3.6 litre Cabriolet is powered by a remarkable new all-alloy engine which is at the heart of Jaguar's new model strategy for the next decade (Clifford Webb, Our Motoring Correspondent, writes).

With twin overhead camshafts operating four valves per cylinder, the six-cylinder AJ6 engine is based on Grand Prix practice. It is only the third new Jaguar engine in more than 30 years, develops 225bhp compared with 205bhp for the present XK 4.2 litre unit and is 30 per cent lighter. In the Cabriolet, it has a maximum speed of 142mph, and a 0-60mph time of 7.6 seconds.

The biggest advance, however, is in fuel economy. The new engine will return a comfortable 25mpg compared with 18 for the existing engine. It was to achieve that, more than anything else, that Jaguar



The new Jaguar 3.6 litre Cabriolet

spent £30m to install a new, highly automated production line with a weekly capacity of more than 1,000 engines, at its works in Radford, Coventry.

That is double the existing capacity and will not be operating at full stretch until the appearance of the new XJ 40 saloon which, originally planned for launch next year, is being held back because of the continuing demand for present models.

The Cabriolet is based on the existing XJ-S 3.3 litre 12-cylinder sports coupé. The body, without roof and rear panels, is completed at Jaguar's Castle Bromwich plant and shipped to

the Park Sheet Metal Company in Coventry for conversion into a cabriolet with twin roll hove.

A novel solution for the old problem of stealing from open topped cars is the use of large twin lockable storage bins behind the front seats.

The Cabriolet costs £20,756, but a fully enclosed version of the XJ-S with the new smaller engine instead of the existing 12-cylinder unit is available for £256 less. Both are fitted as standard with the German made Getrag five-speed manual gearbox. Automatic versions are expected later.

Killers' escapes upset moves towards open prison policy

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Government moves to put into open prisons more inmates serving long sentences, including life, received a setback yesterday as three murderers escaped from Leyhill Open Prison, near Bristol.

Although they were recaptured within hours, the escapes came as plans for holding long-term prisoners were being reviewed along with a rash of escapes from prisons which are described as serious by the Prison Department.

Prison Service News, published by the department, said yesterday: "Where appropriate, local authority agreements which governed the type of inmate who could be sent to a particular open establishment are being renegotiated."

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, has told local MPs about moves to lift curbs on three open prisons, Ashwell in Leicestershire, Ford in West Sussex, and Kirkham, Lancashire. For prisoners coming to the end of long sentences, including life, a period in open conditions was an essential prelude to their eventual release, he said. The three who absconded from Leyhill were serving life.

The Prison Department's recent annual report showed that 131 lifers were being held in open prisons. Last year there was a sharp rise in the number of prisoners absconding from open jails.

While escapes from all establishments rose from 461 the previous year to 555 in 1982, those from open prisons increased from 380 to 438.

Mr William Brister, deputy director-general of the Prison Service, is quoted in *Prison Service News* as saying there has been an alarming increase nationally in the number of escapes by prisoners under escort. In the first four months of the year, 30 prisoners escaped in 25 separate incidents. Although 16 were recaptured within 24 hours "this does not detract from the seriousness of these breaches of security", he says.

● The lifers who escaped from Leyhill yesterday were recaptured when a prison officer on his way from work saw three inmates in prison uniform crossing a field near the A38 near Newport Towers, north of Bristol.

A police hunt was launched and within a short time two of the prisoners were caught. The third gave himself up after a team from Avon and Somerset Police Force and Gloucestershire Police had been searching for a further hour.

Police named him as Malcolm Green, aged 36, from Cardiff. He surrendered to a police dog handler, Police Constable Michael Whiting as he searched a country lane near the Michaelwood service area on the M5 motorway, about four miles from Leyhill.

The others, David Phillips, aged 32, and Anthony Hewittson, aged 29, and Green, are likely to be moved to secure prisons.

Streamlining the cities: 3 Managing London after the GLC

The Greater London Council has two faces. One, that of Mr Kenneth Livingstone and the politicians, will disappear in April 1985. But what will become of the other, benign face of the GLC: the blue plaques, Waterloo Bridge, Golders Hill Park, the Festival Hall? In the third of a series on the consequences of abolition David Walker, Local Government Correspondent, looks at the special arrangements for many of the GLC's assets.

This year the Greater London Council is spending £56 more than the Government says it should on each of its 6.7 million inhabitants; its budget is 50 per cent in excess of the target level. Those figures give some idea of the dimensions of the exercise in cutting public spending that has just begun. It may be called reorganization but in effect it is a process (the Government hopes) for taking nearly £300m out of the GLC's hands.

Similarly, huge savings are expected from the Inner London Education Authority, which is to be reconstituted in 1986 as a joint committee of councillors. It will inevitably be Labour-controlled, but the Government will be in charge of its budget and will be looking for savings of £143 per head from the inner area's 2.3 million people, which translates into a budget cut of £100m at present prices.

The gamble inherent in the Government's policy is that closing County Hall and forcing Mr Livingstone to find another living will save upwards of £400m a year. What the *White Paper* published last week leaves unclear is how much the boroughs will have to spend to continue providing the many GLC services the public is likely to want retained.

Victoria Park in east London will pass in organization to many of the boroughs or to the Home Office or some joint committee. The same will happen to its high-rise towers, flower beds and "leisure" pools. Both boroughs, "high spending" and Labour-controlled, are candidates for the other arm of the Government's policy: pinprick rate-capping. With rates capped they are likely to have higher priorities for their spending than water fowl.

Perhaps the most dramatic financial changes are faced by ILEA. At a press conference last week Mrs Frances Morrell, its pugnacious leader, said it had been under attack for five years but an alliance of parents and teachers had fended off opponents. Such confidence is unlikely to hold.

Mrs Morrell says that ILEA's very favourable pupil-teacher ratio, its high costs for non-teaching staff, its subsidies for school meals, are all justified by the social needs of the inhabitants of Hackney, Southwark and other poorer areas.

Critics of the authority acknowledge the poverty and disadvantages of inner London but question whether this justifies, for example, spending £300 per secondary pupil per year more than Newham, which is also poor, or spending £100 per head of population more per year than Manchester.

The civil servants who will take over ILEA's budget from 1985 will have the task of chipping away the residue of many years of County Hall's generosity. Mrs Morrell and her educational allies are unlikely to be dispossessed without at least a noisy struggle.

Tomorrow: The Birmingham solution.

BBC buys four studios at Elstree for £7m

By Kenneth Gesling

The BBC has bought four television studios at Elstree for between £7m and £7.5m. The deal, described as "a good long-term investment", also gives the BBC 65,000sq ft of office space and will enable it to move staff from a number of London locations.

At present prices each of the four studios would cost about £4m; one of the first projects to take place at Elstree will be a new twice-weekly drama series for BBC1.

The Elstree site is larger than that at the Television Centre at Shepherd's Bush in London, and will enable the corporation to move from high-priced short-lease premises in central London. There are eight studios at the Television Centre and the new accommodation will provide much needed rehearsal and training facilities.

The deal is with Bentay Investments Ltd, the property company belonging to Associated Communications Corporation.

Calvi inquiries to continue, City police say

By John Withersow

Inquiries into the death of Signor Roberto Calvi, the Italian banker, will continue, a senior police officer has said after returning from Italy where he questioned a close business associate of the man known as "God's banker".

Chief Supt Barry Tarbun, of the City police, said that he and two colleagues had spent a total of 24 hours questioning Signor Flavio Carboni about the death of Signor Calvi, who was found hanging from scaffolding under Blackfriars Bridge last year.

Signor Carboni, aged 51, a flamboyant Sardinian business associate of Signor Calvi who was with him in London when he died, was "very frank and never declined to answer anything", Mr Tarbun said.

Mr Tarbun said they had no new lead but the interviews had cleared up certain doubts. He added that a conclusion that Signor Calvi committed suicide was still "very much a possibility".



UK mends fences in Malaysia

Singapore (Reuters) — Lord Jellicoe, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, said here before flying home, last night that Malaysia had dropped its "Buy British Last" policy, but there was still room for improvement in relations between the two countries.

He was speaking to the British Business Association, before leaving for home after leading a trade delegation to Malaysia.

"I can say the 'Buy British Last' policy appears to have become a thing of history. But I can't say Malaysian-British relations are entirely out of the woods."

The 10-member Jellicoe mission was the first big British trade delegation to visit Malaysia for more than a year, after Malaysia imposed a restrictive trade policy against British goods.

Malaysia eased its restrictions after the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, met Mrs Margaret Thatcher in London in March.

● KUALA LUMPUR: British investors and traders have been redoubling efforts to regain lost goodwill (M. G. G. Pillai writes). But they are finding it hard going, as Lord Jellicoe's delegation discovered during its week-long visit to Malaysia.

In a series of meetings with interested Malaysians, Lord Jellicoe spoke like a born-again convert, asking his listeners to give Britain a second chance to help Malaysia. Curiously, the official radio and television network gave him more coverage than a visit of this nature would normally have received while the newspapers barely reported it.

However, talks with the Prime Minister and other ministers went off happily. Lord Jellicoe knows well both Dr Mahathir and Datuk Musa Hitam, the deputy Prime Minister.

Wives in mourning: The widows of three South Korean Cabinet ministers killed in Sunday's terrorist explosion in Rangoon waiting at Kimpo airport, Seoul, for the arrival of a special flight carrying the bodies of the 16 South Koreans who died in the blast.

As the toll in Rangoon rose to 20, including a Burmese photographer who died in hospital yesterday, the 16 bodies were brought home in flag-draped caskets. More than a million mourners are expected to attend a state funeral.

Burmese police have arrested a non-Burmese Asian

Liberals in turmoil as White turns on Gray

From Our Correspondent Melbourne

The decision by Mr Robin Gray, the Liberal Premier of Tasmania, to campaign for Mr John Bjelke-Peterson, the National Party Premier of Queensland, has caused a storm in the Liberal Party.

Mr David Rowell, president of the Liberals Tasmanian branch, said he had been placed in an embarrassing position after advising Mr Gray not to visit Queensland. He said that the political dangers of such a visit would have to be faced by Mr Gray, alone.

Mr Rowell said that Tasmanian Liberals would be disappointed by Mr Gray's decision. "I have given my commitment to the Queensland Liberal Party, through their president, Dr Herron, and Mr White, that we will offer them any help."

Mr Gray's decision is particularly unfortunate because the state election, to be held on October 22, was precipitated by a split in the National-Liberal Party coalition government caused by Mr Bjelke-Peterson's refusal to allow Mr Terry White, the new Liberal Party leader, to serve in the Queensland Government.

Yesterday Mr White said that Mr Gray was the "bad apple at the bottom of the political barrel." He said Mr Gray was not welcome in Queensland and that he would refuse to meet him.

Aborigines threaten police with death song

From Tony Duboudin Melbourne

Aborigines in the West Australian town of Roebourne say they will use traditional methods to punish a local policeman who, they say, was responsible for the death of an Aboriginal youth in police custody more than a week ago. They say they will "sing" him to death.

The ceremony, equivalent to an execution is carried out only rarely. Anthropologists have documented many Aboriginal deaths after such ceremonies.

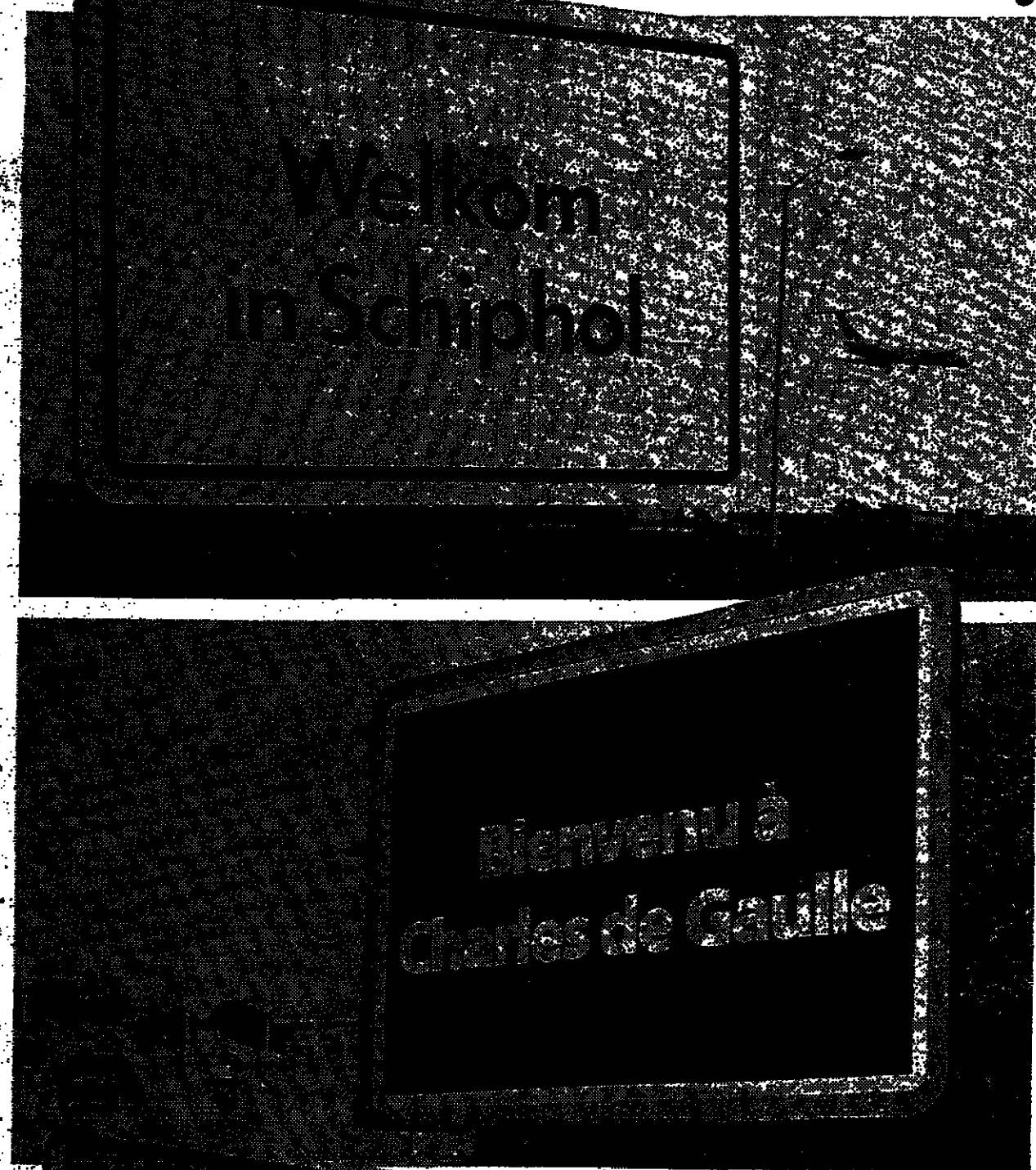
Mr Mick Lee, the stepfather of the boy, said that the local Aborigines would probably go ahead with the singing ceremony if no one was punished by white man's law.

"That is what the people are talking about, they are very angry," he said. "When someone is killed, someone must die. This is our law, Aboriginal law. When someone is sung to death by Aboriginal lawmen, he dies in two days. Black or white, all the same."

Mr Lee is one of the senior Aboriginal lawmen in Roebourne, 900 miles north-east of Perth. He is responsible for initiating young men into Aboriginal spiritual life.

The dead youth, John Pat, aged 17, had begun the long process of education in Aboriginal law last year, Mr Lee said. "I took him into the law myself."

The alternatives to Stansted could prove very costly.



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Ticket sales to foreign visitors and landing fees from overseas airlines earned us £157 million last year. Countless millions more came in via incoming tourists.

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With over 40 million passengers last year, a figure that's expected to double over the next decade, there's now an urgent need for airport development.

At the recent public inquiry, the forecasts supported an expansion of capacity in the South East. Even assuming the maximum growth for regional airports.

The air traveller will expect expansion at London too. Apart from the obvious attractions of our capital city, it offers more flights to more international destinations than anywhere else.

And if we can't cope with future demand, airline passengers will opt for our competitors across the Channel.

To hold our position on top of the world, we must develop our airport system around London.

And the logical location for this development is Stansted. An airport already operating successfully. An airport with rail services nearby and with London just a short trip down the M11.

But, while waiting for the green light at Stansted, we've still been moving forward.

At Heathrow we are spending £200 million on the construction of Terminal 4. It is due to open, on schedule, in 1985.

At Gatwick we've just completed a £24 million satellite terminal. And work has begun on a second main terminal costing a further £200 million.

When the above projects are complete, all feasible developments will be at an end.

There is talk of building a fifth terminal on the sewage works west of Heathrow.

But this scheme could never be ready in time to meet the expected number of passengers.

It would cost £100 million more than developing Stansted.

And, in any case, it would exceed the government limit on air-traffic movements at Heathrow which comes into force in 1985.

At the British Airports Authority we think the question has been up in the air long enough.

To ensure that foreign currency continues to land in London, we must come down in favour of Stansted.

British Airports

The British Airports Authority, a profitable public enterprise, owns and manages Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Prestwick and Aberdeen airports.

Shamir's crisis package may not be enough to stabilize the shekel

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Government sources disclosed yesterday that the 23 per cent devaluation in the Israeli shekel was 7 per cent smaller than that recommended to the Cabinet by the Treasury, thus leaving open the possibility that future attempts to stabilize the ailing currency will be necessary.

The all-night emergency Cabinet session - the first to be chaired by Mr Yitzhak Shamir as Prime Minister - also saw the first angry exchanges between coalition colleagues, which were interpreted as a forerunner of the internal difficulties which will threaten the shaky coalition in the coming months.

At one stage, Mr Yitzhak Modali, a leading member of the Liberal Party (the second largest coalition grouping) accused Mr Yoram Aridor, the unpopular Finance Minister, of bringing Israel's economy to "the brink of ruin" and hitting "the small man" in his efforts to launch a rescue.

The dire state of the economy, including spiralling foreign debt and a balance of payments crisis, has caused mounting pressure on Mr Aridor to resign. But it is understood that this will be resisted until he is offered what

associates call "an honourable exit" to another portfolio by Mr Shamir, possibly the Foreign Ministry. The new Prime Minister is reluctant to open the Pandora's box that would be the result of any switch of posts at present.

The Government's new austerity measures prompted an immediate attack from the main opposition Labour Party, which will decide later this week whether to mount the first test of the Shamir Government's strength by introducing a no-confidence motion on its handling of the economy.

Mr Gad Ya'acobi, Labour's chief economic spokesman, said that the new package was "an admission of failure" by Mr Aridor for his policy over the past two years. Labour has itself been in favour of a sharp devaluation, but it also supports a rapid withdrawal from Lebanon and a freeze on settlements on the occupied West Bank.

The new measures will usher in three successive rounds of price increases, the first which began at midnight with a 50 per cent cut in the heavy subsidies on such basic commodities as bread, dairy products, cooking oil and flour.

The next stage will involve a rise in electricity, water and public transport prices resulting directly from the 23 per cent increase in the price of fuel also introduced yesterday. Then will come a jump in the price of all imported items by at least the 23 per cent devaluation figure.

According to experts, the net effect will be a jump in the rate of inflation from 130 per cent to at least 160 per cent by the end of the year before the reversal which Treasury officials hope their measures will begin.

Most Israeli economic experts were agreed that Mr Shamir's package - introduced with impressive swiftness and determination - could only succeed if accompanied by sweeping cuts in government spending and a successful campaign to water down the system of automatic wage rises in line with inflation.

A scheme designed to minimize the financial disaster for tens of thousands of Israelis following last week's collapse in the market for bank shares has yet to be agreed by all the banks or by the Knesset Finance Committee. As a result, the Tel Aviv Stock exchange will remain shut today.



Tibetan fury: Indian police clashing with Tibetan exiles outside the Chinese Embassy in Delhi yesterday during a demonstration against the execution of Tibetan dissidents in Lhasa. The demonstrators shouted anti-Chinese slogans and hurled stones at the embassy compound.

EEC's crucial meeting in Athens

From Ian Murray, Athens

Howe crusade begins to take effect

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, ended two days of patient lecturing of his EEC colleagues in Athens yesterday, confident that they were beginning to repent of what Britain believes to be their profligate spending ways.

He thought that his four-and-a-half year crusade in the Community to cut agricultural spending and to find a fairer way of assessing Britain's EEC budget contribution, could be edging towards an end.

This second of the three-day special council had concentrated on money. First there was discussion of Britain's ideas for strict financial guidelines on farm spending, which was made more urgent by the news that the Commission was having to freeze payment of £240m this

year for want of ready money. There was discussion, too, of the British budget problem. These were both inadequate, he said, and he did not see how putting two inadequacies together could ever make an adequate solution.

On both these things, Sir Geoffrey said afterwards, there was "a more constructive approach" than there had been at the beginning of the meeting.

"We haven't reached the point where the whole Community is clambering over our safety net to salvation," he said. But he believed the fact that ministers were now prepared to discuss the problems meant there had been significant progress.

He remained as firm as ever on Britain's refusal to accept a "marriage" of ideas, suggested

so far by the Commission and by Denmark, for solving the British budget problem. These were both inadequate, he said, and he did not see how putting two inadequacies together could ever make an adequate solution.

The meeting decided to put the many different ideas on the table back to specialist groups for study before the next special council in November.

The British delegation felt that the cash crisis facing the Community would help to concentrate everyone's mind on the scale of the problem.

The tough British stand was causing irritation in other delegations. One diplomat said that Sir Geoffrey was suffering from illusions of his own if he thought anyone would take

mission's many pessimists had estimated. But they were still right about it happening on the 20th of the month, because of the way money flows in and out of the Community budget.

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The commission cannot obtain more than 1 per cent and it will require an agreement, ratified by the parliaments of all member states for the ceiling to be raised. Britain and West Germany are alone in refusing to agree to raise the ceiling and this refusal is Britain's one really effective negotiating counter

Salvador church rejoins the battle

From Christopher Thomas, San Salvador

It is 8am in San Salvador Cathedral. Where there should be great windows, there is tin where the ornate doors should hang, there are feeble barriers. Pigeons are scurrying in the high roof, three young men in jeans pluck at guitars, blind beggars are about.

It is time for Mass. The soldiers are at the doorway. There is a palpable sense of excitement from 500 worshippers sitting and standing in the hollow, half-built building. Mgr Oscar Romero, the auxiliary Archbishop of San Salvador, is in green robes and about to deliver another remarkable courageous homily.

They kill priests in El Salvador. Mgr Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, was murdered in 1980. 10 priests have been assassinated. 25 have fled abroad, 380 remain to deliver the message.

The Church stopped spending on the cathedral in 1979 - it was being rebuilt after a fire - on the orders of Archbishop Romero. The money was given to the poor. An assassin's bullet ended his life on March 24 the next year because he was so critical of the brutality of the ultra-right.

It sent a convulsion through the Catholic Church. The staid condemnations upheld for a while and crept back slowly - with confidence, but without assertion.

Since Pope John Paul's visit in March, that has changed. The Church has rediscovered itself.

Mgr Vasquez speaks into a microphone, his words echoing off the cold concrete walls. "The legacy of sin continues to devastate our country. The violence of the past week makes any person with Christian feelings shiver. Lord, free Salvador of kidnappings, of threats of terrorism by the right and left."

The people applaud. "Rejoice, the most abominable act of the week was the assassination of four persons (by the rightist) Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez, Brigade. We are arriving at the limits of barbarism."

"If this orgy of blood is not stopped, the slightest suspicion will be enough to condemn to death any Salvadoran without defence without knowing his executioner."

More applause. The ultra-right death squads are back again, shadowy groups from private enterprise, sections of the armed forces and rightist political elements.

The Church condemns them unhesitatingly. Mgr Ricardo Urdiles, Vicar-General of the Arch-Diocese of San Salvador, said that most assassinations are carried out by paramilitary groups and others to the right. He had heard that 80 per cent of people murdered in the past three years were victims of the right.

"President Reagan says the human rights situation is improving," he said. "He is wrong, certainly. But I understand he has a political vision of the situation. It is not a humanitarian vision, not an ethical vision."

"It would be easy for the Church in Salvador to choose an easy life, to say that only the (leftist) guerrillas are the bad guys. People would then be happy with us."

"I wonder if God would be happy."

Poles angry at Norway over Nobel

Warsaw - The Polish Government has protested verbally to Norway about the decision to grant Mr Lech Walesa the Nobel Peace Prize, but Oslo has discreetly warned of "serious consequences" if the former Solidarity chief is prevented from collecting the award (Reuters Boyes writes).

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said yesterday that it was up to the militia headquarters in Gdansk whether Mr Walesa would be allowed to leave the country.

Odessa polluted after mishap

Moscow (Reuters) - An accident at a US-built chemical plant near the Black Sea port of Odessa caused serious pollution last month, official sources in Moscow said.

Water supplies to most of the city had to be cut off for several days after ammonia and other chemicals were discharged into the Dniestr river and severely contaminated reservoirs. But fresh water was shipped in by tanker, they added.

Bette Davis ill



Bette Davis, the film actress, suffered a mastectomy and a stroke in June but is recovering. Mr Aaron Spelling, the producer, announced in Beverly Hills, California, Miss Davis, who is 75, had kept the illness secret until now.

Hiss loses

Washington (AP) - Alger Hiss, whose prosecution 33 years ago became a cold war symbol of US preoccupation with communist infiltration, filed in a Supreme Court attempt to clear his name. The justices refused, without comment, to review his 1950 perjury conviction for telling a grand jury he was not a spy for the Soviet Union.

Runaways safe

Badajoz, Spain (AP) - A West German girl, aged 12, who ran away with her brother, aged 4, four months ago has been found with him at Merida in the south-western Spain. The girl, who is big for her age, used her mother's passport and posed as the boy's mother.

Jumblatt jeopardizes Beirut unity talks

Beirut (Reuters) - Efforts to convene a Lebanese national reconciliation conference were in disarray yesterday after the Beirut newspapers published a statement by the party of Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, which rejected a government proposal to meet at the presidential palace outside Beirut.

The Progressive Socialist Party also called for a delay in the arrival of Greek and Italian observers who are expected here to monitor a shaky ceasefire. Mr Rafik Hariri, a Lebanese businessman with Saudi Arabian ties, returned to Beirut yesterday to resume his efforts to reconcile the warring factions which have been haggling over a conference site for the past two weeks. Opposition sources said that a preliminary meeting due to convene today to prepare for the conference was in doubt because of the uncertainty over the site.

The sources said that the preliminary meeting could still convene within the next two days if a suitable site was found. Mr Jumblatt sees the conference as a forum to press his demands for a greater say for Lebanon's 250,000 Druze in running the country.

Beirut radio reported new outbreaks of shelling between Christian and Druze-held villages in the troubled Kharoub region, 25 miles south of Beirut. Efforts to send paramilitary police to disengage the two sides have foundered on Druze demands that the Christian "Lebanese forces" militia should first evacuate its remaining barracks from the coastal strip.

The ceasefire has been subject to mounting, but so far limited, violations. ● STOCKHOLM: Mr Jumblatt held talks in Stockholm yesterday with Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish prime minister, in which he requested humanitarian aid and asked for Swedish help for his cause at the Socialist International. (Christopher Massey writes).

● DAMASCUS: Men loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, remained in control of several offices of his Fatah group in Damascus yesterday after losing two buildings to rebels in a gunbattle on Monday night. (Reuters reports).

It is probably not coincidental that the news leaked out as farm finance and foreign ministers were continuing their slow-moving argument on Community reforms. However unpleasant the news is for the British shepherds - who will be among the first to feel the effects of the freeze - the timing of the decision has brought

home graphically the urgency of the situation to ministers who are prone to dawdle over their decision-making.

Britain was something of a voice in the wilderness when it began calling for reform in the late seventies. But although the two ends of the Community budget have been meeting only with extreme difficulty for some time there has been no obvious consensus emerging on the urgency of the situation.

Even within the Commission, the experts have lived so long with the threat of bankruptcy that they have grown almost blasé about it. They have been predicting for some time: "The Community will run out of money on November 20 - we don't know which year; but that is the date it will happen."

In fact they have been a month out in their calculations because this year farm spending has soared even faster than the most gloomy of the Commission's many pessimists had estimated. But they were still right about it happening on the 20th of the month, because of the way money flows in and out of the Community budget.

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The commission cannot obtain more than 1 per cent and it will require an agreement, ratified by the parliaments of all member states for the ceiling to be raised. Britain and West Germany are alone in refusing to agree to raise the ceiling and this refusal is Britain's one really effective negotiating counter

Stony broke, so sheep farmers must go short

After years of crying wolf the European Commission has run out of ready money. In the words of Mr Gaston Thorn, the beleaguered president of the European commission: "we're stony broke."

Mr Michael Jopling, the British Agriculture Minister, was far from surprised at the news when he left Athens yesterday after a day and a half spent trying to persuade his EEC opposite numbers that it really was time to put the lid on agricultural spending.

He said wryly as he left the meeting that all the discussion had been irrelevant. The fact that the Commission had been forced to freeze payment of 400 million European currency units (about £240m) of advance premiums showed that it was time to stop talking and to do something.

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Mr Jopling in Athens yesterday: Far from surprised

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Iraq Etendard deal shrouded in mystery

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Contradictory information about delivery of the five Super Etendard jets to Iraq is flying around so fast that many people are beginning to wonder whether the French Government itself is not deliberately putting out misinformation, while playing for time in its efforts to secure a ceasefire in the three-year Iran-Iraq war.

The latest news is that the planes have not left France at all, but are at the Bordeaux-Mérignac airport in the south. Four weeks ago, reports began circulating, quoting well-informed sources, claiming that the five Super Etendards were at the Landivisiau Air Force Base in Brittany. A few days later, however, other "well-informed" sources, claimed the planes had been dismantled, and were about to be shipped.

Hot on the heels of that information, came reports, still officially unconfirmed, that the delivery had been deferred in deference to international concern about an escalation of the war in the Gulf.

Then, on Sunday, came a flurry of new reports, all claiming the planes had left the Landivisiau base.

● TEHRAN: Iran has renewed its threat to close the Gulf, cutting off about a sixth of the non-communist world's oil supplies, if Iraq disrupts Iranian oil exports (Reuters reports).

● LONDON: Iraqi students in Britain have renewed their protest over alleged spying on them by diplomats from their London embassy (Henry Stanhope writes).

President Augusto Pinochet has seized back the reins of power, after they had seemed to be slipping into the hands of Señor Sergio Onofre Jarpa. After the celebrations last month marking the tenth anniversary of his coup against President Allende, General Pinochet began to feel more sure of his popular support, and moved to limit the powers granted to his Interior Minister.

Libya is pressing for war reparations from the Italian Government for atrocities committed under the dictatorship of Benito Mussolini, for compensation for 35 years of Italian colonial rule, which ended 30 years ago.

It is also encouraging other countries which suffered under colonial rulers to follow suit. It is not clear, however, how many of the former colonies are interested in joining Libya's campaign.

The Libyan Government is particularly concerned about the mines left behind after the Second World War, which, it says, have killed and injured 5,000 people.

Attempts to open negotiations with the Italian Government have proved fruitless, and there have been vague threats from Colonel Gaddafi. The Libyans should the Italians remain silent.

Argentina's military junta says it has agreed on "the bases to reschedule negotiations" in the rescheduling of the country's estimated \$27 billion foreign debt.

The precise meaning of the statement, issued late on Monday night after a four-hour meeting, was being discussed yesterday in financial circles. Renegotiation talks with 320 creditor banks were paralysed last month as a result of domestic court action, and the payments crisis led to deep divisions within the government.

The "freeze" on agreements to reschedule the debts of 32 state companies has been lifted by an appeal court, but there are two schools of opinion on how to proceed.

One view, supported by Central Bank officials, is that the agreements should be signed quickly, before the general elections, due on October 30. "We cannot wait a further 20 days to renegotiate the foreign

Junta confronts debt crisis in Argentina

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

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debt" Señor Raul Sanguinetti, a director of the Central Bank, has said.

The country is in a very serious situation. Imports have been virtually suspended, and whoever wins the elections, the day after taking office, will face other problems apart from the foreign debt.

On the other hand, the Air Force and some politicians support a moratorium, to allow the new government to deal with it.

The decision, in many senses, lies with the creditor banks. They originally set October 17 as the deadline for Argentina to put its financial house in order.

The committee of 42 leading banks coordinating the creditors was due to meet yesterday in New York. Some foreign bankers in Buenos Aires suggested that opinion was moving in favour of a postponement, on the grounds that the Government has neither the authority nor the necessary coherence to implement the agreements.

Libya seeks reparations

Libya is pressing for war reparations from the Italian Government for atrocities committed under the dictatorship of Benito Mussolini, for compensation for 35 years of Italian colonial rule, which ended 30 years ago.

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Oppenheim against elec

Oppenheim is against the election of a new government in Argentina. He believes the current situation is too unstable for a change of leadership.

He argues that the military junta is still in control, and any election would be a sham. He calls for a more thorough process of reform.

Oppenheim's views are shared by some international observers who see the Argentine situation as a complex web of military and political interests.

He believes that until there is a clear separation of powers and a commitment to democratic principles, any election will not resolve the underlying issues.

Oppenheim's stance is a reflection of his long-standing commitment to human rights and democratic governance in Latin America.

His criticism is aimed at the international community, which he feels has been too passive in the face of the Argentine military's actions.

He calls for a more active role from the United Nations and other international bodies in monitoring and influencing the Argentine situation.

Oppenheim's views are a reminder of the need for international solidarity and support for democratic movements in the face of authoritarianism.

His analysis of the Argentine situation is a valuable contribution to the ongoing debate about the future of the country.

Oppenheim's stance is a call for a more principled and consistent approach to human rights and democracy in international relations.

His criticism is a necessary one, and it is hoped that it will lead to a more effective international response to the Argentine crisis.

Oppenheim's views are a testament to his unwavering commitment to the values of freedom, justice, and human dignity.

His analysis is a clear and compelling one, and it is hoped that it will inspire others to join in the struggle for a better Argentina.

Oppenheim's stance is a powerful statement of the need for a more just and democratic world.

Andropov gives up hope of winning deal on missiles in Geneva

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov has given up hope of an agreement at the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles and is counting on a "hot autumn" of anti-nuclear protests in Europe to prevent Nato deployments, diplomats here believe.

The main target of an eleven-hour Soviet propaganda campaign is West Germany, where a senior Soviet delegation led by Mr Leonid Zamyatin, the head of the Soviet-Communist Party's international information department, has been putting the Soviet case this week, warning Bonn not to accept new Nato missiles on its soil.

The delegation crossed the path of a West German Bundestag team on its way to Moscow for talks.

In its latest broadcast *Pravda* yesterday said the stationing of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in West Germany in December would breach Soviet-German treaties signed in the 1970s which included undertakings by Bonn not to use force or prepare to launch a war from West German soil.

Until the airliner crisis a month and a half ago, Mr Andropov often referred nostalgically to the détente of the 1970s, and appeared to be laying the groundwork for a last minute compromise in Geneva. In the aftermath of the tragedy

the Soviet leader kept a low profile for a month before deciding to reinforce the hard-line rhetoric of Russia's military spokesmen rather than try to salvage the moves towards an arms agreement.

He described President Reagan's new proposals at Geneva as "wishful, shortsighted and suicidal" and said any illusions that Reagan Administration policies might "evolve for the better" had been finally dispelled.

Mr Andropov is expected to maintain his bitterly anti-American tone in a speech in Sofia after this week's meeting of Warsaw pact foreign ministers in the Bulgarian capital. The missiles will also dominate talks in Vienna this weekend between Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, his West German counterpart.

Herr Egon Bahr, the Social Democrats' veteran disarmament expert and head of the Bundestag delegation, spent the day yesterday in search of common ground on the missiles question, but it seemed elusive. Diplomats here said it was wrong to suppose that Moscow had not yet said its "final word".

"There are times when you have to take what the Russians say at face value," one West European diplomat commented, "and this is one of them. What might have been common ground is rapidly filling up with rockets."

Diplomats believe that if Russia fails to prevent the Nato deployments it will abandon the Geneva medium-range talks as pointless while continuing the parallel talks on strategic arms (Sart). Soviet officials have hinted that cruise and Pershing 2s - once deployed and a *fait accompli* - could be incorporated into Sart and classified as "strategic".

● **BONN:** The talks this weekend between Herr Genscher and Mr Gromyko are seen here as the last chance for the Geneva negotiations (Michael Strydom writes).

Herr Genscher will draw on his long-standing professional relationship with Mr Gromyko to try to convince him that it is not too late for agreement if the Russians are ready to reply constructively to the latest American proposals.

He has already denied any intention of acting as a mediator between Moscow and Washington. But he will emphasize, in tones less ideological than those heard in Washington, the advantages of the latest Western offer, while insisting that the Russians will not shake Western resolution by threats or by encouragement of the peace movement.

Philippines in turmoil: Part 2

Divided opposition lacks panache

David Watts, South-East Asia Correspondent, has visited Manila to report on the turmoil since the murder in August of a leading opponent of President Marcos. In this second article he examines the prospects for political succession. His first article appeared on yesterday's feature page.



Mrs. Marcos: obvious source of future power.



Mr. Varata: America's choice for succession.

The assassination of Benigno Aquino and the years of martial law have robbed the Philippines of its political birthright: politicians of sufficient stature to take over when President Ferdinand Marcos leaves the scene.

Even as the health of the President wanes there is no political figure behind whom people can unite, no name which can spark enthusiasm like that of Aquino. More than six weeks after the former senator's death the opposition is still working hard on a joint programme, trying to patch together a "shadow" government which would lay claim to power when the President goes.

But these politicians know they can scarcely claim to be the men of the future, many of them having been associated with Mr Marcos in one way or another.

Politics in the Philippines in modern times has always been a question of money and patronage. After the declaration of martial law in 1972, President Marcos successfully raided the opposition parties for much of their talent. Traditional politics could not survive in the subsequent years, with the media controlled by Mr Marcos's men and with

the stuff Philippines politics are made of. Personalities with the panache of a Marcos are what is needed. The best the opposition can hope for is to have a set of figures standing by, should Mr Marcos suddenly go, to prevent what many fear may be bloody contest for power.

The most obvious source of future political power centres around the President's wife, Mrs. Imelda Marcos. She already holds several important positions, including Minister of Human Settlements, which disburse a vast amount of government funding. She is also Governor of Metro Manila, the capital area.

She recently announced that she would retire from politics and play no part in next year's election should the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) allow her to step down. There is not likely to be a lack of KBL sponsors for a motion that she should stay, but any subsequent grab for power by Mrs Marcos would not be so well received by the public at large.

She would most likely have the backing of General Fabian Ver the armed forces Chief of Staff and the men who control the broad, high ground of the Philippines' natural resources industries.

General Ver represents far more than merely the Army and the Air Force, having control also of intelligence and the various special commands, including the Aviation Security Command (Avsec) which was in charge of security at

Manila airport the day that Aquino was murdered.

General Ver's son is said to be in command of the armoured units that have been brought into the capital in case of trouble.

The general has recently increased his influence as both of his chief rivals, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the Defence Minister, and Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos, who commands the Philippine constabulary, have had their powers limited by President Marcos.

But General Ver is not a popular figure in the Army and can only hope to maintain his present position so long as the Marcos family rules. Whether he could rally the armed forces behind Mrs Marcos is in doubt especially in the light of recent unrest at the Philippines Military Academy.

Mrs Marcos's erratic and free-spending ways would not make her a President to delight Washington. The man most likely to find favour there would be Mr Cesar Virata, the present Prime Minister, an American-trained technocrat, who has done his best to see that policies recommended by the International Monetary Fund are carried out. Indeed, it is said that the presence of Mr Virata in the Government is the primary reason that the Philippines continues to get IMF credits.

But since the Aquino murder no one can safely predict the future.

Concluded

China joins nuclear watchdog agency

Vienna (Reuters) - China was yesterday admitted to the International Atomic Agency, the watchdog body which operates safeguards and inspections on civil nuclear reactors.

Approval of China's application, was by a unanimous show of hands at the agency's general conference here. China becomes its one hundred and twelfth member.

China will have to deposit with the US Government an instrument of acceptance of the statutes of IAEA, the atomic agency, a UN-affiliated body, before it can become a fully active member.

The country will not be bound by its membership to conform to the agency's international safeguards and inspection system, but it will be under pressure from other members to do so voluntarily, diplomats said.

Other states with nuclear weapons - the US, Britain and France - have voluntary safeguard agreements with the International Atomic Agency.

Mr Hans Blix, the agency's director-general, said that China could both benefit from and contribute to global cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Mr Donald Hodel, the US Energy secretary said "This decision by the world's most populous country, and a nation with a growing nuclear programme, is of great significance."



Tail down: A Boeing 747 owned by Flying Tigers air freight company sitting on the tarmac at Frankfurt yesterday after part of its cargo broke loose and smashed through the fuselage.

Oppenheimer will vote against electoral reform

From Michael Horvath, Johannesburg

Mr Harry Oppenheimer, the doyen of South African industrialists and former chairman of the Anglo-American Corporation, the world's biggest mining group, says he will vote "No" on November 2 in the all-white referendum on the Constitution Bill, passed by Parliament last August, but not yet promulgated.

If the Bill is approved, it will probably be put into effect early next year. It would extend the franchise, on separate voters' rolls, to the Indian and mixed-blood Coloured minorities, whose representatives would sit in different chambers alongside the white chamber. The legislative function of the new chambers, however, would be little more than advisory.

Mr Oppenheimer, who retired as chairman of Anglo at the end of last year but still heads De Beers, the corporation's diamond mining arm, said his decision was made "with regret, certainly, but with no doubt in my mind."

Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, had shown courage in pursuing reform, Mr Oppenheimer said, but had "found it necessary to structure this reform in a way which entrenched the power of the white majority party (the ruling National Party)."

The Government had also failed to consider the political rights of the millions of urban and rural blacks who wanted to remain South African citizens and rejected independence on Pretoria's terms.

What the Government had in mind for blacks, Mr Oppenheimer said, it had been made plain that it did not include a share in parliamentary power.

Opinion among white English-speaking businessmen is divided over the referendum. Most are expected to vote "Yes", believing the Constitution Bill represents a small, if inadequate, step, in the right direction.

The most interesting development has been the upsurge of black opposition. It had been thought that they were indifferent to what they saw as an all-white exercise.

But in the past few weeks, blacks of all political shades, led by Kwa Zulu's Chief Buthelezi, have warned of a violent backlash if blacks are permanently excluded from South Africa's constitutional future.

Farmer dies using gun to club black

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

A farmer was killed by a shot from his own gun as he shot a black labourer with the butt, it was reported yesterday.

Mr Petrus Van Der Merwe, who was 46, swung the gun at Mr David Radebe, who had worked for him for 15 years, as they argued about a pick-up truck stuck in mud near his farm at Credford, Orange Free State.

His son, Johannes said that two shots went off as his father swung the gun first time but they went wide.

The third time he struck Mr Radebe the butt broke and another shot went off which hit Mr Van Der Merwe in the stomach, killing him instantly.

Police kill two
Chihuahua, Mexico (AP) - Police charged and fired into a crowd of leftist protesters at a small town in northern Mexico, killing a 76-year-old man and a small child and wounding at least 20 other people.

Far from home
Jiddah (AP) - A thirsty Dutch carrier pigeon found in the desert near here has been returned to the Netherlands.

Namibia unit blamed for death

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Members of a police counter-insurgency unit in Namibia were yesterday found guilty by an inquest court of causing the death of a black detainee last year "by an unlawful act or omission".

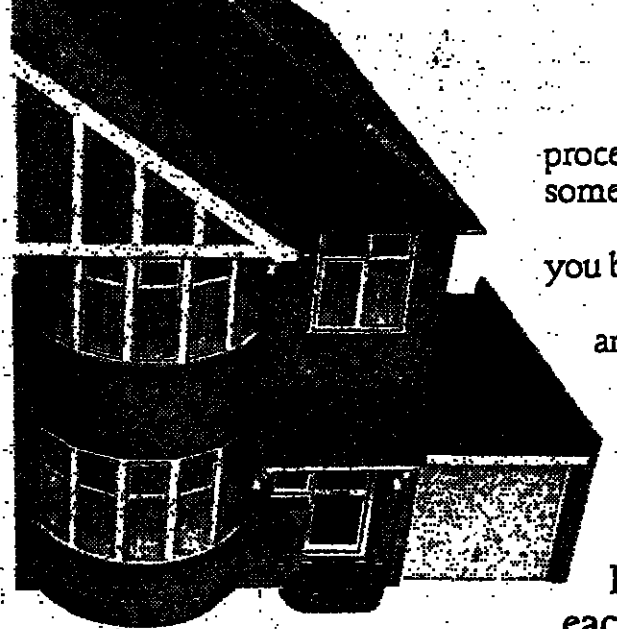
The unnamed policemen were members of the Koekoer (Afrikaans for crowbar), an anti-guerrilla unit with a grisly reputation for brutality and ruthlessness.

Mr A. H. Coetzer, the magistrate who presided at the inquest with a forensic pathologist, said that Mr. Jona Hamukwaya, the detainee, had probably died from a head injury as a result of an unlawful act by certain members of the Koekoer.

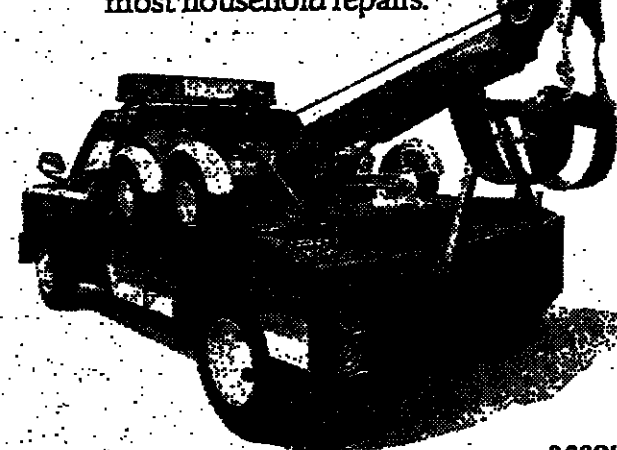
Mr Hamukwaya was arrested by a Koekoer detachment on November 18 last year in northern Namibia. The police said they were looking for Swapo guerrillas who had been given food by villagers in the area.

Witnesses at the inquest, in Rundu, north-eastern Namibia, said they had seen Koekoer policemen hitting Mr Hamukwaya in the chest and back with riflebutts.

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The Listening Bank

THE ARTS

Along with other stirring tales of old South Bank battles from the boardroom to the picket line, Peter Hall's *Diaries* have reopened the directorial can of worms that occasioned the resignations of Jonathan Miller and Michael Blamhorne.

Briefly, the story begins at the turn of the Seventies with Hall's arrival at the National Theatre and his simultaneous conversion to the doctrine of militant classicism. To the consternation of his admirers, the director of *The Wars of the Roses* and the drop-out *Hamlet* announced that he was turning his back on these youthful follies and would be playing no more topical games with the nation's masterpieces.

Even while Hall was setting up his cultural strongroom Miller was raiding it and gleefully spiriting the contents away to Edwardian Venice, which he said, had been collected from the kind of intellectual buccannery that had made things hum at Stratford in the previous decade. By 1970, Miller's star was rising towards Hall's zenith, and not the least of the ills that befell the new National Theatre was the fatal conjunction that brought them together for two unhappy years and a much-publicized divorce.

The effect of this personal split was to divide the classical theatre itself into rival factions with Hall and Miller cast as opposing figureheads. Hall stood for centres of excellence; Miller for lightweight, fly-by-night operations. Hall stood for official classicism; Miller for iconoclastic novelty. Miller, like working with stars; Miller with



In the wake of Sir Peter Hall's *Diaries*, Irving Wardle reveals that Hall and Jonathan Miller have much more in common as directors than the public image of antagonism might suggest

Theatre perceived as a team game

"Official classicism"

enthusiastic troupers like the *Measure for Measure* company which, he said, had been collected from the bottom of Peter Hall's toybox.

This, however, was not an independent assessment of the two men, but how they chose to present themselves to interviewers. Directors are the most articulate of all theatrical publicists, and what they say about themselves is apt to get printed and believed. If Hall and Miller had not been the source of so much readable copy, and if we had only their work to go on, I doubt whether we would ever have seen them as adversaries at all.

Take, for instance, the dispute over "conceptual" versus "faithful" production. This seems to me an entirely illusory issue, as either approach is at the mercy of what

happens in rehearsal. Hall's *Diaries* record one associates' meeting at which Miller alarmed the company by proposing to direct an all-male version of *The Importance of Being Earnest* (why not, in view of the NT's previous all-male *As You Like It* and its subsequent all-black *Measure for Measure*). Miller did not get his show; but a year or two later he directed *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Greenwich with a German Lady Bracknell, which struck some people as an outrageous gimmick and others as a piercing insight into the Wilhelmian aristocracy.

To Hall, this must have seemed like going one better than a baritone Gwendolen. But, according to Miller, his Lady Bracknell was having a memory block ("He's not very good at pointing a line,

Oscar"), and improvising a blotting-paper approximation of the text. Miller's remedy was to suggest that the whole company played in joke voices, whereupon the actress took advantage of her half-German advantage, and showed herself in crisp, faultlessly memorized command of the lines. How many directors' masterstrokes, over which reviewers have rhapsodized, have derived from solving some basic acting problem?

I would like to know, for example, how far Hall's decision to include the English sub-plot in *Volpone* derived from John Gielgud's readiness to play Sir Politick Would-Be; and whether the presence of a plump singer in his *Othello* cast gave Miller the idea of presenting the romantically doomed Lenky in the

bespectacled likeness of Franz Schubert.

Theatre being a team activity, the answer to such questions may not normally matter very much; it only starts to matter when someone raises the spectre of a jackbooted autocrat dragging actors and text into the service of a single interpretative viewpoint. Such an idea was abroad during the decade of the Hall *Diaries*. I wondered what truth there was in it, and in 1979, while this newspaper was suspended, I seized the chance of switching from the mistrusted role of reviewer to the increasingly indulged role of observer. The National Theatre was extremely hospitable, and gave me access to the rehearsals of William Gaskill, Christopher Meehan, John Dexter and Peter Hall. I also had a whale of

a time at Greenwich during Miller's rehearsals of *She Would If She Could*.

As you would expect, the experience revealed a great variety of working methods, which are outside the scope of this article. What is to the point is that there was not one intellectual terrorist on the scene, and no cherished textual interpretation that was not modified or discarded by contact with the human element.

Dexter began work on *As You Like It* with the idea of setting the play in a continuous environment of peasant drudgery and seasonal rituals. That idea went down the drain, as did Gaskill's elaborately formalized duels for *A Fair Quarell* (thanks in part to the NATKE crew who had left a large hole in the middle of his stage). For each

director, you could envisage a non-theatrical equivalent: navigator, Socratic analyst, sports coach. But none of them pulled rank.

Two memories that stand out are of Hall getting up and improvising a stream of baby-talk for Constantine during one of the last scenes of *Amadeus*, and Miller contemplating his matriarchal leading lady, laid flat on her back by a fit of the vapours, and asking two of the company to manhandle her off-stage like a Laurel and Hardy plank. Each director, it seemed to me, could have changed places with the other. Hall does not go off into Miller's cadenzas of baroque clowning (who does?), but, when it came to the practice of directing, their approach seemed identical. Unlike Dexter, who knows his texts and footnotes by heart, they do not go in for academic preparation. Hall's statement that his ideas "do not really take shape until working with people on the stage" applies equally to Miller, who disdains improvisation exercises, as his way of rehearsing a text amounts to a prolonged improvisation. Both love getting in among the actors, and conducting a professional task in an atmosphere of energetic fun.

Above all, both derive their authority not from any pre-arranged master-plan but from the capacity to think very fast on their feet. Directors, as a rule, do not see each other at work. Whether or not this goes for Hall and Miller I cannot say; but I quit my spell as an observer feeling that much wasteful antagonism might have been avoided if each could have been a fly on the other's wall.

Music in London

Touch of elitism

Brandis Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Encouragingly described in their publicity material as "an elitist ensemble", the Brandis Quartet of Berlin proved, in Beethoven's Op 18 No 1, to be a quartet of soloists in the best sense. Such equal-voiced playing seemed apt as in his revision of this piece before publication the composer was concerned with an even-handed distribution of musical interest between the instruments.

Beethoven is traditionally thought to have and the *Romance* and *Juliet* tomb scenes in mind when composing the slow movement, and the work's main weight lies here - perhaps unduly so. It was a bit smooth, but the Brandis players showed an appreciation of the finale's humour and the sophisticated of its sonata-rondo form, especially the moments of contrapuntal rest.

Despite the above encomium, there were Beethovenian passages where one was not sure if the cello's bass line was strong enough, and during Wolf's *Italian Serenade* the first violin's part was occasionally understated. There was an engagingly instantaneous response, though, to this music's shifting moods, now whimsical, now insistent.

Quite different sorts of equivocation are sometimes at work in Schubert's C major Quintet, for which the Brandis ensemble was joined by Steven Isserlis as second cellist. The consequent richness was always finely controlled, and this, somewhat paradoxically, was a result of the fully flowering expressiveness of each line.

Every nuance appeared to relate to all other nuances, and nowhere more so, of course, than in the Adagio.

No amount of familiarity can make this other than one of chamber music's profoundest experiences, and it was perfectly just that those widely arching melodies received the evening's most memorable playing.

Max Harrison

Debuts

It is strange that London has not heard the Russian violinist Roman Medvedev before. Now 41, and domiciled in West Germany, he arrived at the Wigmore Hall not as a tentative debutant but with a boldness springing from total command of his instrument. In a first half of Vivaldi, Tartini and César Franck he now and again emerged too highly-strung. Even Franck's ardent Sonata seemed at times to burst out of its skin, with Gordon Back, otherwise admirable, forgetting how easily the piano can dominate the second movement. But thanks to pungent attack and rhythmic tension, also a very wide range of dynamics and colour, Mr Medvedev's F minor Sonata was arrestingly vivid. Nor can he be over-praised for the potent contrast of mood, *madame in pique*, that he found in 10 Preludes from Shostakovich's Op 34 in an uncommonly telling transcription for violin and piano by Dmitri Tziganov.

The Spanish pianist Mario Momré was a virtuoso of unusual control, able to throw off seven Transcendental Studies by Liszt as the *Corner Fantasy* chosen as first encore as effortlessly as if they had been grade-one exercises. He had formidable strength to match lightning dexterity, and always maintained the clearest texture. In climaxes he was inclined to harden his tone, certainly to an excessive degree for a work such as Chopin's B minor Sonata, while in this composer's more intimate lyricism his cantabile was insufficiently luminous. But both the Sonata and the Barcarolle found him appreciative of their logic and larger shape. If only there had been evidence of a more immediate and personal emotional commitment of a keener sense of wonder, this would have been a recital to remember.

It was hardly to be expected that a trio from France called Les Idées Beethovenes would discharge their country's baroque and twentieth-century music with equal authority. Denis Ario's harpsichord account of Couperin's "Les Dominos" was in fact as sensitively executed as it was deeply felt, but the flautist, Pierre Miscevic, sounded futuristic in this early period, and the brave soprano, Veronica Grange, less than completely assured in intonation and vocal production. But, though still handicapped by small tone, the flautist met the demands of Honegger and Ravel with more conviction after the interval, while the singer, too, proved infinitely more tonally and expressively beguiling in Poulenc, Roussel and a pithy now 1920s-type Cocteau cycle, *Trousse de voyage*, by the versatile Denis Ario, now at the piano.

Joan Chissell

Fly Away Home

Lyric Studio,
Hammersmith

Any man who has ever longed to escape from nappy-buckets and sleepless nights to a solitary garret with a typewriter will readily identify with the hero of William Humble's play, at least during its first half.

Tim, who sees himself as the Balzac of the North London Polytechnic, first quits his student pad and settles reluctantly for an inner-city house as the price of marriage to Anna. Andy, his old flatmate, may mock, but nobody could call Clapham Junction bourgeois, and raising a family there is out of the question. Anna, however, swiftly contrives a pregnancy, and it is out to the leafy suburbs and a grinding domestic round that turns NF retrospectives into a thing of the past.

Inch by inch, Tim loses all his most cherished ground, and takes his revenge with increasing sniping and bloody-mindedness, hanging on to the idea of his unwritten novel as the last outpost of his old identity.

Fly Away Home enacts this glum variation on the classic theme of the artist man and the mother woman in the form of a morality play: defined at the Lyric by Roger Glossop's divided stage with a central area of blackness flanked by the suburban living room and the squalid Acton flat. While a table is laid for dinner in one area, baked beans are spooned up in the other; and Tim is stranded between two ways of life, not knowing to which he belongs.

Also, Mr Humble invokes the morality device of the good and evil angels, in the form of a fully married-up neighbour, Robbie, who dotes on his family, and the brutally non-attached Andy.

So far the play presents a standard pattern more than a particular story. In the second half, it starts making individual choices, and questions start

Just a Kick in the Grass

Nuffield, Southampton

Richard Ireson's play about football corruption has been worth waiting for. In March the trustees of Bromley's Churchill Theatre cancelled a planned premiere, blaming its filthy language; suspicious grew that its grim picture of boardroom frauds and a bent Fraud Squad was the real offence, but after overhearing shocked older patrons at the Nuffield I am not so sure.

What did they expect from a play whose cast-list stretches from the former barrow-boy chairman to the bootleggers on the terraces? Actually they talk much the same way, thus strengthening the impression of a continuum of thuggery with skinheads at one end, detectives

Joanne Brackeen

Ronnie Scott's

There was a time, perhaps bracketed by the deaths of Charlie Parker in 1955 and John Coltrane in 1967, when what we call modern jazz lost friends through the insistence of many fine musicians on ironing all conventional expressive nuance out of their playing. Instead of being punctuated by accent and pulse, improvisations were delivered like electronic print-outs, with velocity and complexity seeming to be the only parameters. Luckily, the avant garde of the 1960s and 1970s reversed this process: Ornette Coleman and Albert Ayler were two exemplars who broadened the

range of gesture, while the graduates of Chicago's influential Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians looked both forward and backward at the same time, to the point where many young improvisers now have more in common with the dramatically well-observed detail of the forward drive of the plot, and David Gilmore's production cannot hide that. But the parts prove wonderfully playable. Haller's fur-coated missus

Theatre

Variations on a classic theme



Playing from the guts: Hywel Bennett

creeping in. Why, for instance, is Tim so resistant to change, especially as he loves his son? It is not even as if he were writing his book. Rows and thunderous silences then explode into an act of separation - played from the guts by Diana Quick and Hywel Bennett as a classic encounter between a passionately neglected woman and an unfeeling man who casts his eyes up in despair even as he is putting an arm round her shoulder. But Mr Humble caps this truthful climax by sentimentally polishing off Tim's beloved son as well; thus bringing him round to maudlin remorse for destroying his chances of ordinary happiness.

At this point Mr Humble

springs a thrilling surprise. Anna returns to the stage to attack the play we have just seen as Tim's ultimate betrayal. Depending on who you look at it, she is invading his last sanctuary of private space, or taking a just revenge on all those writers who have exploited personal relationships under the pretext of art. The only problem here, though, is that the character of Tim is drawn with such guilt that you never feel he had it in him to write the play. Roger Lloyd Pack and Tim Woodward incisively define the domestic and epic extremes in Peter James's production.

Irving Wardle

expecting £1,000 bribes in the wilds of a horsemeat-hamburger millionaire in the directors' box at the top.

Haller himself (John Bardon) is a memorably monstrous creation, telling the officers to make themselves useful beating up Blacks, tipping his players £20 when they reach the First Division ("like waiters"), one says bitterly, then watching impotently as they get thrashed by Liverpool and a smooth young local councillor unable to tell soccer from rugby (Michael Cadman) sorts out the deficit and snatches his job, his salary and his leggy secretary.

Mr Ireson's relief for damning his characters with well-observed detail slows the forward drive of the plot, and David Gilmore's production cannot hide that. But the parts prove wonderfully playable. Haller's fur-coated missus

(Brenda Fricker) would "rather watch gangster fester" than a football fly, but is set on bringing her husband down before cancer stops her. Crippled by a foul, the team's black wonderboy (Ben Onwukwe) is thrown on the scrapheap with pitiful consequences. The hapless simpleton who lives for winter Saturdays (Patrick Monckton) sees his home ground ploughed up for a more profitable shopping development.

And there the play shows its sympathies: greed, graft, privilege with a cosmetic common touch, have reduced a game, a source of fun, to the point where new shops and new jobs would actually do more good. For Mr Ireson, football's cancer is terminal and deserved - as challenging a kick-off to discussion as you could want.

Anthony Masters

Jazz

Whether in such highly wrought original compositions as "Einstein" and "Special Identity" or the more familiar cadences of "My Romance", the sheer density of their outpourings floods the perceptions, as sometimes happens with Cecil Taylor, the drama is reduced simply because there is too much to absorb. Occasionally an isolated felicity shines through, such as one of Houston's sotto voce glides or Brackeen's way of terminating a series of rat-tat-tat block chords with a quick tremolo, but, while sincere admiration is an appropriate response to the music's logic, spirit and percussive drive, the heart does not really respond.

Richard Williams,

Television

Keeping a sense of prestige

Frank Cvitanovich is a good film-maker but there is always a danger with his technique, of close observation without anyone intervening between camera and subject, that he can become so engrossed that the audience is left to its own devices - which, these days, can mean that, feeling rather neglected, they take advantage of the remote control and switch over.

His new series of three films began on Thames last night with *Thank You Jesus*, which focused on Pastor Jo Smith, a large, nattily dressed, attractive black lady whose Church of the New Testament Assembly offers a largely black congregation in Leyton a place of light and relief and diversion from their sufferings in the way of unemployment and social deprivation.

The worship at her church is emotional, rhythmic and entered into, whether it be penitential or celebratory, with a gusto that eventually carries along even those whites who appear to have more inhibition in these gatherings than blacks.

Pastor Smith told us that unemployment in this part of London's East End was highest among the blacks. She put it as high as seven out of 10 and expressed particular concern for youngsters who, she said, needed to be four or five times as brilliant as a white to compete successfully for a job. They were also, she said, suffering particularly because, unlike their forebears, they were less inclined to endure passively.

She also said that she was against black people trying to be

like whites and that she wanted them to behave as nature inclined them. She wanted them to be proud and avoid what she considered to be the worst injury individuals could do to themselves, which was to do something that lowered their estimation of their own prestige.

We saw Pastor Smith going energetically and pleasantly about her work at prayer services, playgroups, weddings and baptisms but, though the photography was intimate and and good, we heard little other of Pastor Smith's beliefs and philosophy, which was a pity because curiosity awakened but left unsatisfied is an irritant. No doubt Mr Cvitanovich has the answers but he did not let on. Let us hope his next two films will be more explicit.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Les Troysens
Metropolitan,
New York

The one-hundredth Metropolitan Opera season opened with more pomp and ceremony than usual. Because of the festive nature of the occasion, more of the audience were white in the stalls, and, because of the elevated nature of the musical offering, more of the audience kept silent during the performance. The offering was Berlioz's *Les Troysens*, complete, in its first revival since it was originally seen here in 1973.

James Levine was in full charge of the large forces necessary for this sprawling opera, and conducted a performance notable for its fervour, pace and clear elucidation of the orchestral colours Berlioz built into *Les Troysens*, the true nineteenth-century epic counterweight to Wagner. Levine's overall slow pacing of the Trojan acts, and his quickness in the Carthage ones, somewhat restricted the individuality of tempo that is so

characteristic of Berlioz's music, but his handling of the supreme Act IV sequence of quartet, septet and duet was masterly, with the septet in its hushed serenity unfolding in radiance.

Jessye Norman made her debut as Cassandra, and she rightly dominated the Trojan acts with her presence and her command of French. She is a head, and the whole opera is centred on a very dated elevated disc. The Royal Hunt sequence, originally done with films, is now presented as an orchestral interlude, without action.

Fabrizio Melano, the producer, chose to direct the opera as a semi-oratorio, with a minimum of stage movement, and this added to its impact, since much of what Berlioz created that is timeless is contained less in the action than in the music itself. In this setting, the principals often at the front of the stage (the principals often at the front of the stage). It was, as an evening, a deserved homage to a great work.

Patrick J. Smith

Dance

Swan Lake
Covent Garden

It is unusual for the leading man to hog the attention in *Swan Lake*, but these are unusual circumstances, with two successive performances at Covent Garden each introducing a new Siegfried to the Royal Ballet's production. Jay Jolley's debut was planned - an experienced dancer just recruited from Festival Ballet, where he had built a strong reputation. Jonathan Cope was hurried into the role at about a fortnight's notice because of a colleague's incapacity; he joined the company exactly a year ago, straight from the Royal Ballet School.

Cope's only previous experience of a big leading role was as Albrecht for his graduation, but that was enough to mark him out for coming prominence, and he had already been picked for a leading part in Richard Alston's new ballet in December. All the same, a four-act classic is another matter.

It is his height, coupled with his strength and skill in partnering, that gives Cope an edge on his contemporaries. Playing opposite Pippa Wyke, one of the finest soloists, he gave absolutely secure, assured support throughout. As a soloist, Cope has a better jump than the (generally disappointing) Royal Ballet average; apart from that his technique looks sound, well-balanced, not at this stage notably brilliant, but perfectly presentable.

He and Wyke both acted their roles thoughtfully, intelligently, but without much apparent emotion. She tends to a cool, reserved manner any-

way, so Cope may find a warmer expressiveness later when matched with other partners. The pleasure in Wyke's performance, however, came from seeing the dancer so smoothly and efficiently displayed.

Marguerite Porter, Odette/Odile at the other performance, has a more fragile technique: rather soft round the edges, and she flunks the *fouettés*. But Jay Jolley's experienced, helpful care showed her to best advantage in the adagio, just as his engaging presence and lively sense of theatrical presentation made the most of her winsome acting.

Jolley clearly relishes the big

romantic ballets (indeed, he left his native America five years ago to be able to dance them). His arrival at Covent Garden will fill a gap, since the established leading men there tend more towards a dramatic style, and his example should encourage and help the younger hopefuls.

Among these, I must mention another of only one year's standing, Bruce Sansom; his dancing, beautifully matched with Stephen Sieruff's, brought exceptionally smooth, brilliant steps to the Ashton *pas de quatre* in Act III.

John Percival

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SPECTRUM



Communist aggression and lies constitute the great temptation of our time, according to Jeane Kirkpatrick. In a last extract from her conversation with George Urban, she tells why this is so

The ignorance of Western intellectuals

Kirkpatrick: I don't find it difficult to explain the West European position on El Salvador - although I think it very short-sighted. It represents an extraordinary blindness and/or indifference to the security interests of the US. For what is the message our European Allies are sending us when criticizing our positions in Central America and voting against us at the UN? Is it this? That the US is expected to be concerned about the security of Western Europe, but Western Europe need not have a reciprocal concern about the security of the US?

Now, I grant you that the US is a member of a Nato alliance which is explicitly concerned with the security of Western Europe, while the West European countries are not members of any alliance that would guarantee the security of the USA in its own hemisphere. But the fact is that the Caribbean and Central America constitute the fourth border of the USA. The Soviets perceived very accurately as early as 1967 that this area was a kind of "soft underbelly" of the US, and that our capacity to act forcefully elsewhere in the world depended on our freedom from a serious threat to our security on our borders. It follows that US security in Central America ought to be a prime concern of Europe.

The full text of the conversation between J. Kirkpatrick and George Urban will appear in the 30th anniversary issue of *Encounter* on October 20. George Urban is a writer and historian specializing in Soviet affairs. Jeane Kirkpatrick is the US Ambassador to the UN.

What disturbed me a great deal at the UN was the discovery of the multiple issues on which the US, the UK, and Western Europe have different perspectives.

The most disturbing for me have been the human rights issues. All Western nations have repeatedly acquiesced in ignoring massive human rights violations by the Soviets and their satellites (Poland, Cuba, Vietnam, Ethiopia), and focus their protests on the real but both qualitatively and quantitatively lesser violations committed by traditional non-communist anti-communist autocracies in Latin America, and also in Israel.

Urban: But has the US pursued a different and more principled course?

Kirkpatrick: Not really. Until the arrival of the present Administration, the US passively acquiesced in all this. Since last year, however, we have declared war on using such double standards, especially in the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

Last year, in Geneva, we finally managed (in cooperation with the West European countries) to pass a weak resolution on Poland, calling on the Secretary-General at least to investigate human rights abuses there. Unbelievably, this was the first human-rights resolution affecting a communist country which was ever passed by the Human Rights Commission. And, as I say, though important, it was much, much weaker than the human rights resolutions regularly endorsed by a Third Committee of the UN General Assembly on Guatemala, El Salvador, Uruguay, or Chile.

Right now, it is almost impossible to interest our West European friends in human rights violations in Nicaragua, even though we have incontrovertible documentary evidence to show that the Sandinista régime is subjecting many thousands of Miskito Indians to the most brutal maltreatment.

All this leads me to the disquieting conclusion I have already mentioned: that some Western nations have a highly politicized concept of the moral issues involved, that they are apparently indifferent to the security interests of the US in Central and South America; and that they are too often content to acquiesce in human rights policies whose principal functions is to serve the political interests of the Soviet bloc. Sweden provides the extreme example of all these tendencies. Their human rights policies in the UN bodies are highly ideological and by no means "neutral" in their political content.

Urban: May I return, to end this long colloquy, to what we have said about the extraordinary predilection of Western intellectuals - and a sector of Western youth for giving the benefit of the doubt (and more than that) to communist régimes. Haven't we read too many clever things in their mouths? The majority of them - or so it seems to me - are just angry young men and women raging at the limitations of the human condition. May of them do not even consciously support socialism. They simply echo man's anguished cry since the beginning of time: "There has to be a better world, or life, or society than this one."

Don't you think that this vague longing - this non-specific, negative Utopianism, this really adolescent urge to tear down the temple - is perhaps all we have to look for when trying to explain "the reason of the right?"

Kirkpatrick: That is certainly the main source of the intellectual confusion. Alienation from existing authority - not economic role - is the principle determinant of their susceptibility to totalitarianism. Totalitarian ideologies promise an end of "alienation." False consciousness, isolation, anomie, separation, loneliness, purposelessness - all are defined as subjective consequences of objective social ills, therefore as capable of being eradicated through social engineering.



'Most disturbing for me have been the human rights issues'

eradicated through social engineering.

The intellectuals we have in mind act in a spirit that assumes that human nature in the future may be qualitatively different from what it was in the past, a spirit that views each situation as *tabula rasa* on which a plan can be imposed, and therefore sees experience in other times and places as having no real relevance. Intuition becomes more important than experience, intelligence than custom. Yet the most extraordinary fact about our times is, to say it again, the tenacity with which persons who pride themselves on being rational and scientific hold to a mystical faith in political propositions which are demonstrably false and unreasonable.

Despite the fact that Communist parties have no reliable relation to the masses - do not come to power through mass action, do not submit industry to the control of the people or organize production for the benefit of the workers, and do not in general rule at the pleasure of the masses - a vast body of myth, misunderstanding and confusion supports the notion that there is some sort of mystical affinity of communism and "the people."

The notion persists that communists are somehow morally superior to other elites which use amoral means to gain power and impose repressive minority dictatorships. The sources are several.

One is the semantic confusion fostered by the communists themselves through their through their systematically perverse use of language. By calling "autonomous" that which is powerless, "federated" that which is unitary, "democratic" that which is autocratic, "united" that which is imposed by terror, "peaceful" that which incites war in brief, by systematically corrupting language to obscure reality - the communists have made inroads into our sense of political reality. Language is, after all, the only medium in which we can think. It is exceedingly difficult to eliminate all the traditional connotations of words - to associate phrases like "For a Lasting Peace and a People's Democracy" with neither peace nor popular movements nor democracy.

A related form of semantic subversion, practised by communist parties everywhere, is the effort to capture prestigious symbols, slogans, and traditions. Communist parties in the underdeveloped world attempt to identify themselves with the slogans of nationalism and anti-colonialism. Communists in France attempt to identify themselves with the symbols of the *Résistance*, the French Revolution, and the tradition of the left. French communists have attempted to capture Victor Hugo, as American communists staked a claim to Tom Paine and Abraham Lincoln.

Communism does not grow by winning support for its own values. Neither members nor followers are regularly recruited through the appeal of communist values. Communism grows by identifying itself with the prestige symbols of competing movements and so blurring issues, stakes and alignments.

If communist parties spoke of *collectivism* to peasants, of *internationalism* to the new nations, of *inexorable conflict* to intellectuals, of *monolithic conformity* to the working classes, and of *dictatorship* to the middle classes - in short, if communist parties attempted to recruit support through the appeal of their own real values, the lines of conflict would be clearly drawn. Communism, whose values have a sharply limited appeal, would be readily defeated.

The political temptation of "the

new class" of intellectuals we have been puzzling over in this conversation lies in the belief that its members, intelligent and exemplary motives equip them to reorder the institutions, the lives, and even the characters of almost everyone by violence if necessary - this is the totalitarian temptation.

The destruction of Korean airliner 007 by Soviet rockets provides further evidence that violence and lies are regular instruments of Soviet policy and obliterate the conventional boundaries between peace and war. Soviet officials regularly behave as though truth were only what they said it was, and as if violence were an instrument of first resort in foreign affairs. These Soviet actions and claims illuminate the Soviet conception of appropriate relations among nations in peace time.

We, on the other hand, believe that truth is as vital to cooperation and peace among nations as among people. It is depressing to consider a world in which a major nation equipped with the most powerful modern weapons believes it has a sovereign right to fire on a commercial airliner lost over its territory.

We are dealing here, not with the decisions of individuals, but with the decisions and priorities characteristic of the Soviet system. Not only did Soviet officials order the destruction of a civilian airliner and lie about it, they have also refused offers of international participation in search-and-rescue efforts in spite of internationally agreed-upon standards and practices.

We are reminded once again that the Soviet Union is a state based on the twin principles of callousness and mendacity, dedicated to the role of force, and governed by the idea of the dictatorship of the proletariat which in 1920 Lenin defined in these words: "The scientific concept of dictatorship means nothing more than unrestricted power, absolutely unimpeded by law or regulations and resting directly on force."

It is this principle of force - this mentality of force - that lies at the root of the Korean Airline tragedy. This is the reality we all must ponder as we consider the threats to peace and human rights that face all of us today.

© 1983, Jeane Kirkpatrick and George Urban.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Eye of the storm

According to an opinion poll taken in Soviet Russia last week, more than 99 per cent of the population said yes. And that was before they'd even been asked a question.

This East European joke, which came out of the Moscow computer over the weekend during one of its routine propaganda sessions, does not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the *Moreover* magazine. With the advent of the first autumn poll in Britain (Kington closes gap on Thatcher), our hearts sink collectively. It does not take an expensive statistical survey to prove that a new, young leader of the Labour Party will gain in popularity during his honeymoon period, any more than we need an opinion poll to prove that the weather is getting cooler.

There are several things about the Soviet Union which seem attractive from a distance, mostly the absence of things we find irksome here. They don't have opinion polls, or advertising, or ten trailers before the feature film, or peace demonstrations clogging up the traffic. It's a shame in a way that we only praise the Soviets for things they haven't got, never for anything they've got, but it's nice to be able to praise them for something. And something they haven't got in profusion, I have realized over the past week, is storms.

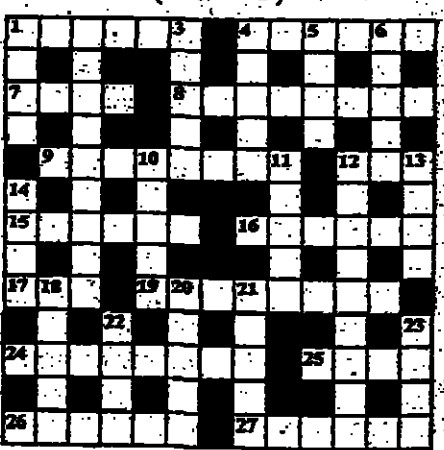
The storm we have had in the past week is the Cecil Parkinson storm. You may have read about it. When Cecil Parkinson announced that he intended to go on living with his wife, there was an immediate storm. We knew there was a storm because the newspapers said so, a storm which grew, which raged about his head, which blew through Westminster and which threatened to bring down, if not the Tory Party, at least Cecil Parkinson.

The oddest thing about this storm, as with so many newspaper storms, was that it seemed to have no visible effect outside newspapers. No walls were knocked down in Yorkshire, no trees fell across roads in the Midlands. I have travelled extensively on public transport the last week, and eavesdropped on conversations in all our major pubs, and not once have I heard a reference to the Parkinson storm. People are simply not talking about it. I am reluctantly coming to the conclusion, however, that it sounds that this storm has been a stark storm which happened only in Fleet Street and did not affect even nearby streets.

One explanation for this may be that the public were puzzled by not finding the Parkinson drama enacted on television. It is an exact replay, with the sexes reversed, of the earlier *Coronation Street* drama, in which Ken Barlow's wife decided to leave him and then change her mind at the last moment. The nationwide interest was enormous, but this was because we could watch it every night on TV, and share in Deirdre's struggle with herself. But when the public switched on to look for Mr Parkinson holding his wife's hand and saying: "I'll make a po of it if you will" (music, credits), they looked in vain. They could believe in Ken Barlow, because they could see him with their own eyes; Mr Cecil Parkinson, I'm afraid, they tend to think of as a fictional character.

The great question remains: why do the newspapers go on believing in the existence of, and the great storm around, Mr Cecil Parkinson? And here I have a confession to make: I did not consult last Sunday's heavies for the answer. I am sure the answer was there. It always is there. The trouble is, it is always accompanied by an immensely complex and illegible diagram which invariably defeats me and makes me feel inferior. Sometimes it is labelled "Why Japanese air control missed Korean airliner", at other times it is labelled "How they defeated the Maze security system" or "Why oil slicks will go on happening", but it is always the same diagram with Sunday it was, presumably, labelled "How the Parkinson Storm grew", but readers will have to forgive me if I had not the heart to study it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 173)



- ACROSS
- Blackcurrant
 - Undergo (6)
 - Kush (4)
 - Hard-shelled fruit (8)
 - Cheaper than standard (3,5)
 - GFs (3)
 - Fired killer (6)
 - Keeps away from (6)
 - Fine larva (3)
 - Scalp scales (8)
 - Tearful tale (3,5)
 - Delicious (4)
 - Muslim ruler (3)
 - Neck press (6)
- DOWN
- Set of principles (4)
 - Bigfoot (9)
 - Cub unit leader (5)
 - Male succession law (5)
 - Verifiable truth (4)
 - Mistake (5)
 - Crosses weave (5)
 - Young eel (5)
 - Intravenous solutions (4,5)
 - Impudent talk (4)
 - Flightless bird (4)
 - Splash with water (5)
 - Supercilious (5)
 - Senior society member (5)
 - Senior Russia (1,1,1,1)
 - Jewish homeland (4)

SOLUTION TO No 172
ACROSS: 1. Icarus 2. FIFA 3. Uspury 9. Redneck 11. Eye level 13. Purr 15. Electrode 18. Onus 19. Tentacle 22. Debrexit 23. Mason 24. Seam 25. Embroidery
DOWN: 2. Cause 3. Rip 4. Street theatre 5. FIDE 12. Figure 14. Purr 16. Kuld 17. Ever 18. Coast 19. Equable 20. Wood 21. Wooty 22. Cast 23. Sejm 23. Mob

Caroline Moorehead looks at science fiction, the folklore of the twentieth century

The message from outer space

The timing of the recent speculation about a UFO's visit to a Suffolk pine forest could hardly have been better. This week the Book Marketing Council begins its promotion of 20 science-fiction writers. The alien visitor serves to illustrate how, at least on one level, our attitudes towards space have scarcely changed in nearly a century. For the Tanham Wood spacecraft - a fast-moving object with powerful lights, disgorging a red ball full of beings in silver spacesuits - is little different from H. G. Wells's Martians, who arrived in the guise of a falling star on Woking Common in the mid 1890s.

Science fiction, so the experts say, is the most misunderstood genre in modern writing. No one can agree either when it began (Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*? The publication of the first science-fiction magazines in America in the mid 1920s?) or quite how to define it. "Any fiction inspired by science and scientific change," says J. G. Ballard. "Any book," says Christopher Priest, "rather more mockingly, 'that has sci-fi on its cover'."

In its list of 20 authors the Book Marketing Council includes H. G. Wells, Aldous Huxley and George Orwell alongside Ballard, Brian Aldiss and Michael Moorcock. The choice has been widely criticized, as Christopher Priest explains: "If you wish to, you can drag in any number of writers and call them science-fiction authors. Huxley and Orwell would turn in their graves."

What, then, defines science fiction? For publishers and writers alike the term appears to cover all writing that is speculative about the future, and some that is speculative about non-existent past. The traditional BEM (bug-eyed monster), clanking robots and the random rearrangement of time have not vanished as popular themes. Instead they have been joined by every permutation of modern science, in-



Clarke



Asimov



Wyndham



Ballard



Aldiss



Moorcock

cluding psychology, sociology, linguistics and medicine, although, as Brian Aldiss once put it, they almost always end with nemesis clobbering hubris.

At one extreme lies the esoteric work of Ian Watson, the Oxford academic who writes about structuralism; at the other end of the spectrum, as at the horde of popular and garish comics with their ingredients of horror, sadomasochism and the occult. In between, there is time travel, genetic mutation, Arthurian legend (very successful), "paranoid sci-fi", and enjoying a considerable current popularity the "fuzzies", typically "golden-furred and emerald-eyed, the largest of them two feet tall".

There is also, of course, Tolkien-inspired fantasy, often selling better than "pure" science fiction, though again definitions blur. "If it has a rocket on the cover, it's sci-fi," says Dick Judge, manager of *Forbidden*

Planet. London's science-fiction bookshop off the Charing Cross Road. "If it has a naked barbarian, it's fantasy."

Whatever the vocabulary the "genre" as all fans call it, appears to be booming once again. It is dominating the *New York Times* best seller lists (in the shape of Robert Heinlein's *Friday*, Arthur C. Clarke's 2001, James A. Michener's *Space* and Isaac Asimov's *Foundations*) and accounting for up to 20 per cent of some British paperback publisher's entire turnover. John Wyndham for example, has sold almost six million books in paperback alone. For aficionados it is a cult with its accepted classics - Clarke's 2001, Frank Herbert's *Dune*.

Leaving aside the question of science fiction's literary genesis, the genre achieved its commercial launch in the 1920s when the "pulp", with their threatened maidens in wispy

gauze, soon won enormous and steady audiences.

By the late 1950s some half-dozen glossy magazines - such as *Asimov's*, *New Worlds* or *Galaxy* - were selling 140,000 copies a month in Britain alone, and Charles Chilton's BBC radio serial, *Journey into Space* was thought to have an audience of well over two million.

The 1950s witnessed the birth of the boom in science-fiction book publishing, with 30 London publishers turning out roughly 160,000 science fiction books each year.

The boom was followed, however, by a slump.

The 1970s were not particularly good years for science-fiction writing. American and English concerns seemed to diverge, with British writers like Ballard losing esteem in America, and Ballard himself dismissing Ameri-

can preoccupations with trying to recapture an outmoded American dream. The vast success of the film *Star Wars* did a great deal to boost the video-game industry and its own book spin-off (the paperback sold more than a million copies in England alone), but little for science fiction as a whole.

The question remains, however, whether the science fiction being written today is concerned with developing new perceptions, or whether it is merely reworking familiar themes. Did the 1950s and 1960s represent a glorious era whose innovations cannot be repeated?

To counter this view is a feeling, stoutly defended by most fans, that science fiction should be considered the authentic and enduring folk literature of the twentieth century. "We are now living in a world invented by science fiction,"

From the Centre of the Earth (Hutchinson, 1983) that Chinese join the Party for "recognition, status, power... cars, travel, and better housing".

In health alone, perhaps, the Chinese image remains dimmed. Par-Lowinger, a San Francisco psychiatrist who visited China twice for a few weeks, once in 1975, and again four years later, and social psychologist Martha Livingston, are both "ruined by China" (as they say), and write about its mental health in *The Minds of the Chinese People* (Premiere, 1983).

Sheila Hillier, a sociologist at the London Hospital and at Barts, and J. A. Jewell, a London GP - both China specialists - would agree. They have investigated the Chinese health system on visits spanning the years of enthusiasm and disillusion, and they take a long view in their forthcoming *Health care and traditional medicine in China 1900-1982* (Routledge, September 1983). The People's Republic, they conclude, has provided and continues to provide comprehensive and thrifty health care for the masses.

Jonathan Mirsky

Bitter taste of reality

"China stinks." This was an American visitor's judgement last year, in *Harper's* magazine, on the world's oldest civilization.

Eight years before, film star Shirley Maclaine had reacted differently about the People's Republic. "Serene, I said to myself, that's the word. Serene." I saw China's books before Mao's death in 1976 usually breathed euphoria. Nowadays they spit bile.

What has precipitated this reversal? Probably, and ironically, China's relatively greater openness since Mao's death. Earlier visitors, like Maclaine, David Rockefeller, and Felix Greene were shielded from the horrors of the Cultural Revolution by the lies of their guides. Now travellers are permitted somewhat more mobility and occasional informal contact. And the Chinese press has become more truthful.

Perhaps the greatest turnaround has been in the evaluation of the late Chairman Mao, a shift legitimized by the Communist Party's own 1981 Resolution on his "tragic errors" of the Cultural Revolution.

Abortion threat

Until recently information about China's peasantry - 80 per cent of the population - was scarce. Foreign academics were allowed brief "study trips" into the countryside, and journalists were lucky to get a day at a time on selected communes. Now Steven Mosher has written *Broken Earth: The rural Chinese* (available December Collier Macmillan), an account of his year (1979-80) in a southern village. Since leaving China three years ago, Mosher has been dismissed from Stanford's doctoral programme in anthropology for unspecified unprofessional conduct. Mosher contends that Stanford backed under threats from Peking to stop all American academic exchanges unless he was severely disciplined for revealing details of a compulsory abortion drive which he witnessed.

The abortion reports in his book are indeed vivid, but what is more striking is Mosher's picture of a tradition-bound peasantry and its self-serving officials. He saw his neighbours worshipping their ancestors and the gods, and burying the dead and getting married on auspicious days. As for their officials, "the Chinese I spoke with insisted that most cadres look out for their own interests first, last, and always."

Hidden hierarchy

China's seemingly universal equality overwhelmed observers in the wide-eyed period. Harvard economist J. K. Galbraith wrote in *China passage* (1983): "Somewhere in the recesses of Chinese policy there may be a privileged party and official hierarchy. Certainly it is the least ostentatious ruling class in history."

Clearly, there is very little difference between rich and poor. But the *New York Times* Fox Butterfield identified 24 bureaucratic grades each with its perks, a system never discussed in China, he said, "to help preserve the illusion of egalitarianism." Another veteran of Harvard studies, Richard Bernstein, who represented *Time* magazine in Peking in 1980 and 1981, asserts in

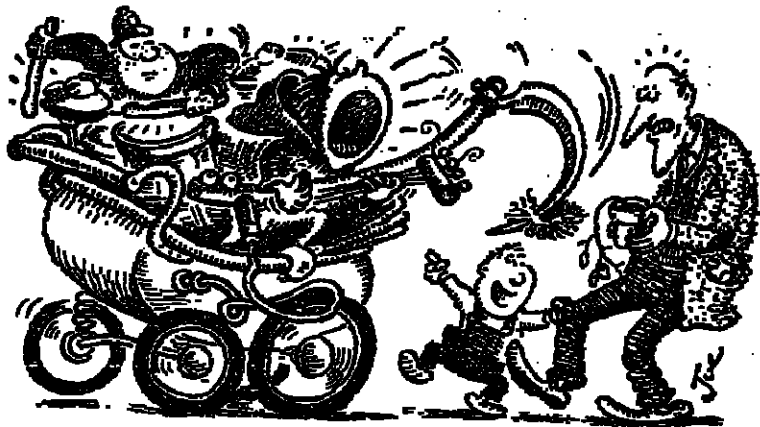
IS AGE A CRIME THAT MARTHA SHOULD BE IMPRISONED FOR?

Many old people like Martha are confined within their own four walls as effectively as if they were in a cell. Victims of infirmity and loneliness, without friends or family, many rely on day centres to maintain the all-important human contact. For some old people all over Britain, Day Centres represent a chance to escape the isolation of their homes and make new friends. But owing to a shortage of funds, some Centres cannot open every day of the week, and lack important facilities and equipment. Your help is urgently required to allow Centres to expand their capabilities. Any donation you can make will help another lonely old person rediscover the pleasures of human contact. Please send all donations now to: The Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room 1003, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed)

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



I had always been under the impression that you could log the increasing fresh complexion of the policeman. This may be true, but a far more accurate guideline is the galloping juniority of rock groups. I write with confidence, since the band booked to play at the summer street party has an average age of 12. They are called Kandi and the Cassettes, and not even my colleague Richard Williams has heard of them. Yet.

I sense disaster. Not even before chemistry O-level did I have such intimations of failure. The schism that has dogged every meeting of the organizing committee will be reflected faithfully by a fiasco on Saturday. Strange how catastrophe has a kind of scent. It infuses the air with tension, and seems to speak the children as though they were thoroughbred stallions before a prairie storm. If I weren't such a coward, I would boycott the occasion. After all, there is ample precedent in the Street Radical's snubbing of both the Jubilee and Royal Wedding festivities. On the second occasion his children actually sported tiny sandwich boards with the slogan, "Monarchy is a celebration of mediocrity". That may be true for all I know, but how terrible to foist such knowing phraseology on political innocents. Perhaps I should come up with an apt riposte. What about: "Street parties are a communal affirmation of autocracy"? No.

Reggae music is drifting across the street in broken measures. A woman's voice is riding high over the beat, wailing venomously: "De Queen she nothin' but a painted doll". But the voice does not belong to a Jamaican, nor, strictly speaking, to a woman. It comes from the larynx of Kandi, vocalist with the Cassettes and, so it is rumoured, winner of a scholarship to one of London's public schools for girls. She is scarcely pubescent, as sparrow-boned as Palf in her decline, pale as a ghost, with black springs of Afro-permed hair. All round the garage walls are younger children, my own daughter included, mesmerized by the angular act of this gamine.

It had to happen; daughterly demand for "a proper guitar, with wire coming out of it". I offer the usual return of service: "I can't afford it" - and back comes the now customary stop-valley: "Then get some more money out of the wall." (A reference to the NatWest service till)

Bobby Marshall "drops by", ostensibly to "liaise" about Saturday but really to do a Mary Whitehouse over the corruptive properties of Kandi and the Cassettes.

She "drops by" again, demanding access to the following: (a) full lyrics of the Cassettes' intended programme at the party; (b) name, address and occupation of Kandi's father; (c) a copy of the local authority music licence for Saturday. As if I should possess any of these. The trouble about such childless busy-bodies is that their caring instincts invariably manifest themselves in blanket censorship. My inner voice suggests she take an acid bath at her earliest convenience, but my outer one refers her to Parvis Maitland. A worse fate by far.

The party is upon us; so too is the world and its wife (by which I mean the Maitlands, the Petranellas, the Street Radicals) and its token pensioners, the cats Fidel and Raoul. Morgan Prewitt is of course in attendance, being bribed by his mother into near-tranquillity with a stream of confectionery. If he is quiet, that is only because he is seeking out the most strategic spot at which to throw a Morgasm. Even Caetano the window-smearer and Magnus the roof-burner have turned up - touting for trade I suppose. Kandi, quite repressing the classical scholar within her, is singing: "Gonna take me pistol to de palace". Someone is fiddling with the Jackpots in the pre-amp. It is Bobby Marshall, trying to disconnect the band for the good of the community. My son at once slaps in a party bid for "a proper guitar with wires coming out of it". Suddenly it seems so much more effective than conventional arms.

'A woman's place is in the House'

People in their early forties are, nowadays, very fashionable, politically speaking. So it was a chic move on the part of Mrs Thatcher (58 tomorrow) to appoint Emma Nicholson, at "forty-one and eleven twelfths", a smidgin younger than party chairman, John Gummer, as vice-chairman in charge of women.

Emma Nicholson is the daughter of Sir Godfrey Nicholson, a former Tory MP, and a grand-daughter of an earl. One of her sisters is married to a Foreign Office minister, Richard Luce, and another to Sir John Montgomery Cunningham. Emma wears Jaeger-ish clothes and lives in a pretty cluttered Belgravia mews house. So far, so identical to Tory Lady. She departs from the stereotype in that she was one of the first women in the country to work in computer technology and in always, unswervingly, putting her career first.

"When I first started work, I found that none of the men I met was at all interested in my job. If I'd had a broader variety of friends then, perhaps, I would have met men who weren't so dismissive, but I didn't. I couldn't fit myself into the sunnyside that was all that seemed to be offered to me. I felt that I wanted to learn more."

"So I had to give up the idea of marriage although, obviously, I'm very sorry not to have had children."

Here is the task. Prepare a dish for eight based on two young guinea fowl weighing just over a kilo each. Three garnishes - not in the spring-of-parsley sense, but the classic French cuisine meaning of formal assemblages of accompanying vegetables and the like - are mandatory. Truffles and caviar are the only forbidden ingredients, but nothing may be prepared or cooked in advance of the four hours allotted for the job.

Ah yes. Your efforts must be set out on a silvered dish of vast expanse and placed before six judges, among them chefs of long experience and distinction. Then, when its presentation has been noted, the dish will be tasted and the balance of its flavours, textures and seasoning savoured or suffered.

Nine ambitious young chefs from hotels and restaurants up and down the country exercised their skills within these limits at the Dorchester in London last week. The occasion was a quarter-final of the Prix Taittinger, and it produced two semi-finalists, Herbert Berger of the Connaught Hotel, and Arthur Bukalo of the Inigo Jones restaurant in London, who will take on the competition from all over Europe in Paris later this month.

It was a marvellous day to be given fly-on-the-wall licence to watch the cooking, the judging and all the backstage bustle. The recipe,

As compensation, I have always worked terribly hard at friendships.

Graduating from the Royal Academy of Music with not quite enough talent to become a professional musician, she decided that the new field of computer technology sounded challenging. Vocational guidance experts told her that computer companies were unlikely to hire a music graduate who'd given up mathematics for ever at the age of eight. "I was so angry, I looked up 'computers' in the telephone directory and persuaded ICL to give me a test." She passed and began a tough training that became easier once she discovered similarities between music and computing and worked through problems "by applying fugal analysis."

Five years ago, she joined the Save the Children Fund to help with forward planning and is now Director of Fund Raising - "a more elegant term for chief professional beggar."

As an MP's daughter, she opted into politics early. "I have always seen it as the thing that mattered in achieving change for other people and the way to get a wrong put right." In 1979, she contested the Labour stronghold of Blyth in Northumberland, the first woman to do so. She lost the fight but won the highest ever Conservative vote.



Emma Nicholson: down the pits for votes

She sees her present political role as "a kind of constituency task, the 'constituency' being women's votes. I want to make the Conservative Party the natural one for women to join".

I said that this Government has been blamed for making women's

lives more difficult. Cuts in the social services, nursery provision and care for the elderly and a back to the kitchen sink philosophy hardly made the Conservative Party the women's one.

Emma Nicholson said that she didn't expect her job to be easy. "If

you want a soft life, you wouldn't choose to go into politics. It was tough getting the miners' vote in Blyth. But I went down the mines and came up with some of their votes. This is not a marshmallow exercise."

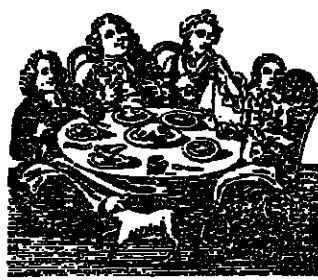
What's needed, she feels, are more women candidates but the problem is the average woman's impossibly stretched timetable. "They're either so busy working their way up the career path or bringing up children or both that they don't have enough mental space to be as involved in politics as I should like them to be."

"Anyone who sits around whining because a woman isn't in a particular position doesn't understand the meaning of the Sex Discrimination Act. Until we get parity in the number of people who apply for jobs, we can't complain about unequal selection. The way to get more women in Parliament is to give selection committees the widest possible choice of candidates."

Well, yes, of course. But selection committees have been offered Emma Nicholson, a woman of intelligence, enthusiasm and an aptitude for hard work. Had she been a man, did she think that by now, she might have been selected for a winnable seat? "Oh yes", she said. "There are no two ways about that."

Penny Perrick

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

which follows cannot be attributed to one or several of the chefs whose work was so very enjoyable. Too few of us have access to fresh foie gras for Herbert Berger's puff pastry parcels of breast of guinea fowl with foie gras and savoy cabbage to be a practical proposition. But the idea is so attractive, and so easily adapted to pheasant and other game birds, or even chicken, that I have done just that - adapted it.

Whether you make one guinea fowl feed two or four people will depend on how much additional stuffing goes into each parcel and the other constituents of the meal as well as the size of the birds themselves.

Breast of guinea fowl in puff pastry

Serves four

1 or 2 guinea fowl, about 1kg (2lb 3oz) each

Onion, carrot, celery and bouquet garni for stock

225g (8oz) chicken or duck livers

300ml (1/2 pint) milk

110g (4oz) clarified or fresh butter

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 tablespoons port

1 tablespoon cognac

1 shallot or small onion, finely chopped

225g (8oz) fresh mushrooms, chateaufort, caps or large buttons

450g (1lb) puff pastry, homemade or bought

1 egg yolk

For the sauce

1 pint lightly seasoned guinea fowl or chicken stock

2 tablespoons port

150ml (1/4 pint) double cream

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Cut the legs off the guinea fowl and use them either for stock or for another dish. Carefully cut the breast meat in one piece from each side, removing the skin and cutting away the white sinew. Set it aside.

Chop the carcass and put it in a large pot with the vegetables and bouquet garni. Cover with water, bring to the boil, skim, season lightly

and simmer for an hour or more.

Carefully pick over the chicken or duck livers (chicken livers are another possibility in the absence of foie gras) removing all the stringy bits and any patches of greenish or yellow staining. Cover the livers with milk and leave them to soak for at least an hour, or for several in the refrigerator if you have time. Soaking in milk softens the flavour of the livers and draws out some blood, making them paler too.

Heat about two tablespoons of the clarified butter in a heavy frying or sauté pan and add the lightly seasoned breast meat. Cook it gently and lightly without allowing it to brown. Remove it as soon as you judge it is cooked but still a little pink in the middle. Set it aside to cool.

Dry the livers well. Add a little more butter to the pan and sauté them briefly, without browning, until they are firm enough to slice. Remove them from the pan and pour off the fat. Add the brandy and port to the pan, stir briefly to dissolve the meat juices and quickly pour off and keep the liquid.

Wipe the pan clean and heat the remaining butter. Fry the shallot or onion until it is tender but not browned. Slice the mushrooms quite thickly and add them to the pan. Cook and season them lightly, drain and set them aside to cool.

Carve the cooked guinea fowl across the grain into neat slices. Slice

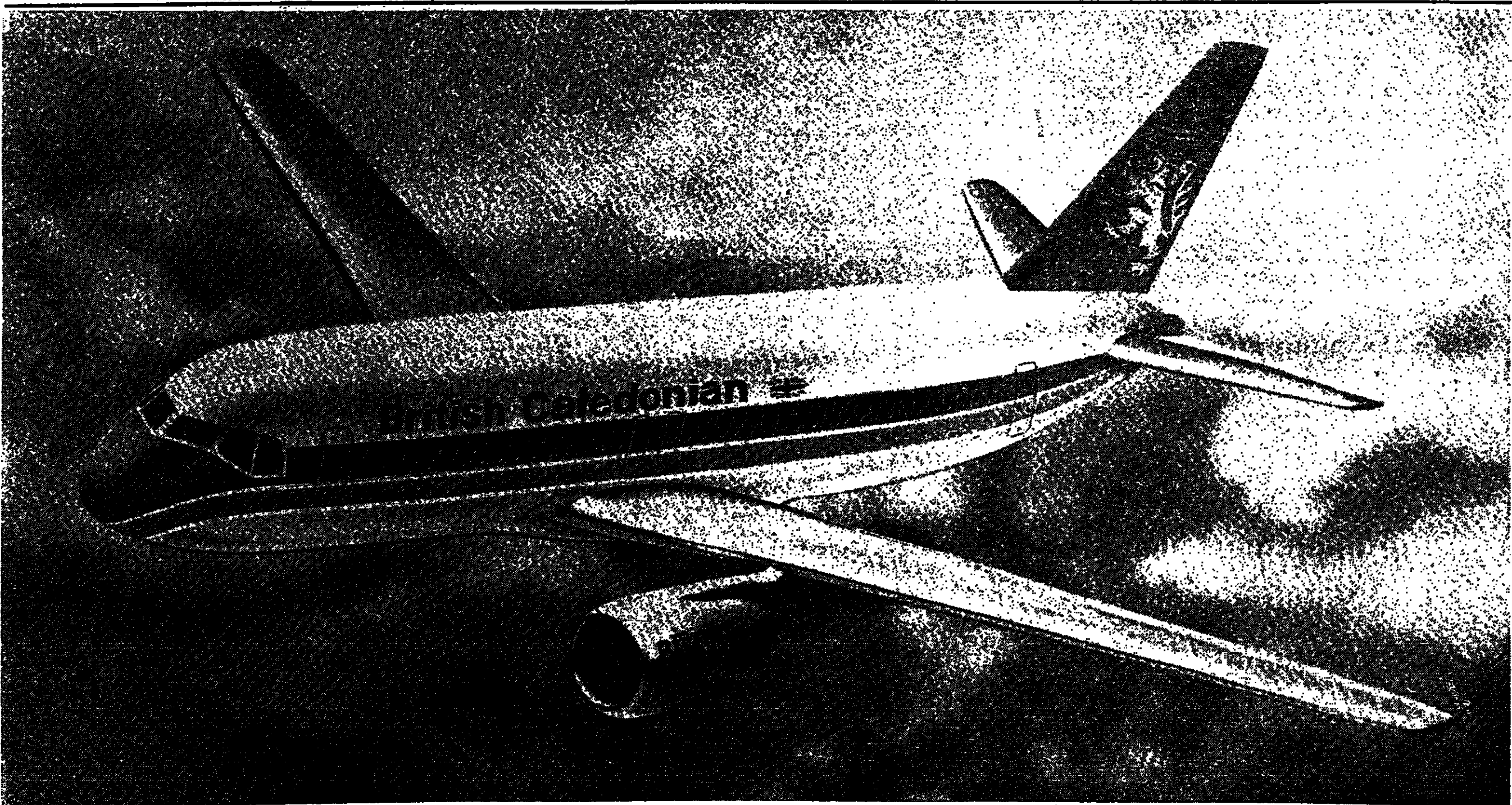
the livers too into pieces of about the same thickness. Place slices of liver between slices of meat to make up groups of slices in the shape of the original breast meat.

Roll out the puff pastry very thinly. Cut four pieces of pastry the same tear-shape and size the meat filling. Cut another four pieces the same shape but about 2.5cm (1in) bigger all round.

Divide the mushroom mixture between the four larger pieces of pastry, placing it in a heap in the centre. Now arrange the sliced meat and liver on top. Moisten it with a little of the fortified pan juices. Turn in the edges of the pastry loosely over the filling. Dampen the exposed edges and top with a smaller piece of pastry. Form each of the packets in the same way, then invert them on to a dampened baking sheet so that the joints are out of sight underneath. Decorate with pastry trimmings and chill them for at least half an hour before baking.

Just before baking them paint the tops with a glaze of egg yolk mixed with a tablespoon of water and bake in a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for about 20 minutes, or until puffed and golden.

Serve immediately with a sauce made by reducing the strained stock to about 150ml (1/4 pint), adding the port and cream, and reducing and seasoning the mixture to taste.



The Airline of the Year chooses the Aircraft of the Future.

British Caledonian, Airline of the Year, demonstrates what it takes to be a winner. In choosing the all-new A320 for their long-term fleet development, they express a vote of confidence in its ability to fulfil all the criteria of modern airline management. Underlining the superiority of the aircraft

which will lead air travel into a whole new era.

A private, independent company, B. Cal. has been able to make an unbiased commercial judgement based purely on economic and technical requirements. Part of this judgement is to

maximise profitability through extending the use of their current short-haul aircraft in anticipation of delivery of brand new European technology towards the end of the decade. Saving now to buy better, later.

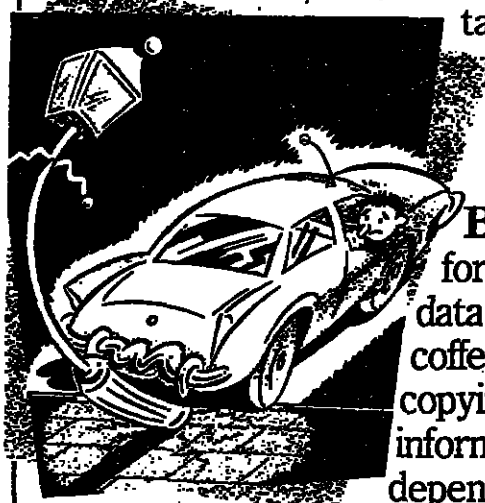
Airbus salutes the Airline of the Year.

 **Airbus**

If you thought a ram was only of interest to sheep, read on.

A.

ASCII: Pronounced 'Askey', it stands for American Standard Code for Information Interchange. This international code lays down the binary numbers (0s and 1s) which represent each letter, symbol or number that you can type into a computer. Without ASCII, computers wouldn't be able to talk to each other.



B.

Back-up: The procedure for making copies of vital data in case of fire, flood or coffee damage. Systematic copying and secure storage of information is vital—business depends on it.

BASIC: A computer language conceived to make life easier for novice computer programmers. It stands for Beginners All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code. BASIC has gone on to become the most widely used programming language for microcomputers.

Binary: Computers use a rather similar code to Morse, which has dots and dashes. Some people might actually call it 'a binary asynchronous communications protocol'. But to put it simply binary means two—just two bits of code are used, just like dots and dashes.

Bit: Having grasped the complex mathematics of 'binary' you'll wonder what to call a 'dot' or a 'dash'. It's simple enough—bit.

Buffer: The place in a computer's memory where you put data before processing it.



Bug: A program error. Coined by early computniks who found that insects played havoc with the workings of their huge machines.

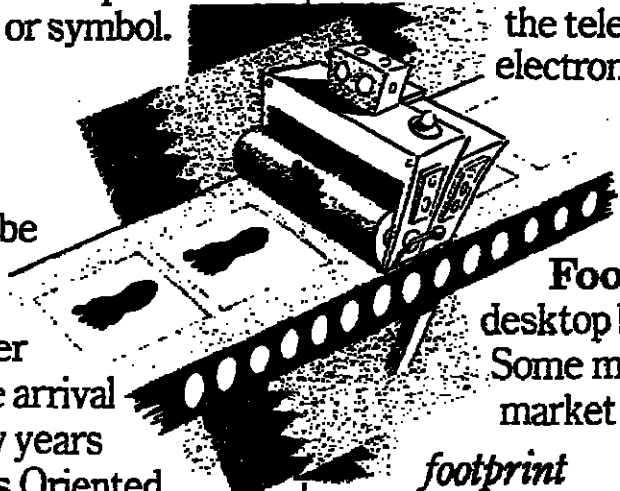
Byte: Short for 'by eight', normally a group of eight bits which contains enough information to represent an ASCII number, letter or symbol.

C.

Character: Any symbol that can be displayed on a computer.

COBOL: The grandad of computer languages and widely used until the arrival of microcomputers *en masse* a few years ago. COBOL, or Common Business Oriented Language, is used by most mainframe and mini-computers. It's been criticised for being too cumbersome (no computer language pleases everyone) but some micros now run it.

Command Driven: A software package controlled by special command words keyed in by the user. Not for novices, who work better with menu driven programs.



F.

Footprint: The space taken up on a desktop by a microcomputer or terminal. Some machines currently on the market have rather big feet.

G.H.

GIGO: Garbage In, Garbage Out. All too often computer errors are not the machine's fault but the operator's.

Hardware: The mechanical, electronic and plastic bits and pieces of a computer.



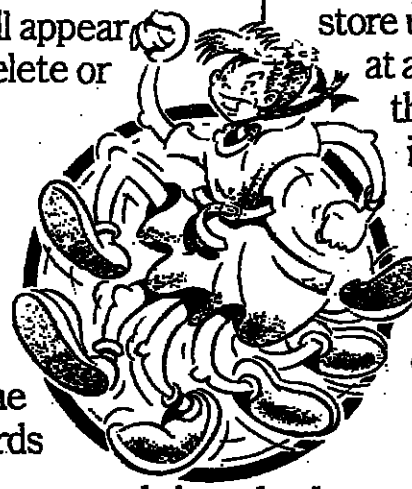
garbage

CPU: The Central Processing Unit is the heart of any computer. It controls the other units and applies arithmetic and logic to the data fed in.

Cursor: When typing onto a computer screen you need a way of seeing where you are. The cursor tells you where the next thing you type will appear or indicates characters you wish to delete or move.

D.

Daisy Wheel Printer: Produces high-quality typing. The printing head resembles a daisy, with preformed characters at the end of spokes. The Merlin printer produces up to 700 words a minute in a variety of typefaces.



daisy wheel

Data Management: For business micros. Allows users to maintain files of information either as a simple electronic card index, or as a more exotic enquiry system, able to extract facts and figures and print them out as reports.

Disk: Computer memory is expensive, disks are cheap. A computer can make magnetic marks on a \$5 disk and can store 100,000 words. To keep the same amount inside the computer, you'd need a memory costing the best part of £1,000. Disks are also small and light: a 5 inch disk can be sent by post.

Dot Matrix Printer: One of the ways of printing out results from your computer. A dot matrix printer has a battery of pins which create characters from a pattern of dots.

E.

Eight-Bit or Sixteen-Bit: The computer industry's answer to 'horsepower'. You don't need to know how many bits a computer has. What matters is 'can it do the accounts?' and 'how many people can use it at the same time?'

Electronic Mail: Services such as Telecom Gold which allow computer terminals to dial up over the telephone network to consult personal electronic mailboxes.

Input/Output (I/O): Input is the information fed into a computer. Output is the information produced by the computer.

Interactive: Computers operate on information in different ways. They may be programmed to store up data and programs and to work on them at a given time: this is batch processing. Or they may be required to respond at once—interactive computing. All microcomputers are interactive.

IPSS: International Packet Switched Service. British Telecom's international computer data transmission service.

K.L.

K: Literally, a thousand. In the computer world there are actually 1024 bytes in a K or Kilobyte (not many people know this—not many people need to).

Language: The native language of a computer is the morse code of the binary system, but writing programs in binary is far too cumbersome and long-winded. So, computers have high level languages like BASIC and COBOL which are more like English and describe the work we want to do.

Programs are written in these languages and then translated into binary or machine codes.



language

M.

Memory: A measure of the power of a computer is its memory capacity. A typical £100 home computer holds about 1,000 characters in its memory—barely enough for a letter.

Something like Merlin's office microsystem (with space for nearly 250,000 characters) can hold a couple of sequels to *The Winds of War*, and let the accountant run his payroll program at the same time.

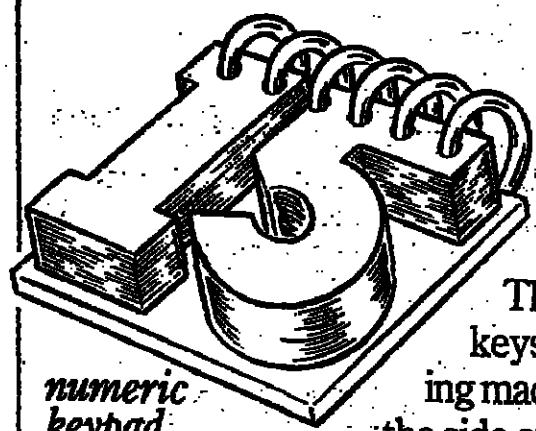
Menu: To make life easier, many programs ask the operator what he wants to do. They present alternatives—a menu. The MerlinMaster menu program, a feature of the M2200 series, presents you with a list of alternatives. In plain English.

Microspace Justification: A feature of better quality printers that allows printing to look as good as typeset text, with words stretched evenly across the full width of the column.

Modem: Short for modulator/demodulator. It enables you to attach your computer to a telephone line, translating computer signals into those used by the telephone network.

Merlin is the biggest supplier of modems in the country.

Multi-user: Merlin's M2235 microcomputer is powerful enough to support the work of more than one terminal at a time.



numeric keypad

N.

Numeric Keypad:

The layout of numeric keys borrowed from adding machines and added to the side of modern computer-keyboards. Allows rapid input of figures, given the right fingertips.

O.R.

Operating System: The operating system keeps track of all those bits and bytes. It tells your machine how to start working and how to interpret any instructions you give it.

Peek: The command you give the computer to move information out of its memory.

Peripherals: The printers, disk drives, keyboards and so on which enable information and programs to be fed in and out of a computer.

Poke: The command you give the computer to move information into its memory.

Port: Point inside a computer where a connection can be made between its processor and peripherals outside the machine.

Q.R.

Qwerty: The classic typewriter keyboard is known by the six letters on the top left hand keys: QWERTY.

RAM: For a computer to work, it has to run a program which has to be inside the computer. It probably takes about 10,000 code words, and they are fed, one at a time, to the central code processor, which the computer is best left to do by itself (it can read its own memory circuits the way you can read a newspaper story).

It can read any memory circuit it likes, at random. That's why it's called 'Random Access' Memory. However, it isn't random. It's fast, direct access. (See ROM).

Report Generator: A program designed to let you select and lay out information that has been produced by the computer.

ROM: Coded information stored in computer memory just evaporates when the computer is switched off. But computers need to be told what to do next time they're turned on. This information is stored in wires. Very fine wires. 100,000 on each chip. The computer can read the codes, but it can't change them. They're called Read-Only Memory - ROM.

RS232: An electrical standard devised for 25-pin plugs and sockets used to link up computers with printers, plotters, modems, and each other.

S.

Serial: When bits are transmitted in a stream down a single wire they're serially transmitted. A parallel bit stream involves sending bits over a number of wires simultaneously.

Software: Refers to all programs which are run on computer hardware. Some software is fed in on tapes and disks, some remains stored permanently on the computer's memory.

There are two types of software; applications software does the work and systems software keeps the computer in line.

Spreadsheet: Financial planning aid that's a clever computerisation of the sheet of paper, pencil, calculator, and rubber.

The first low-cost spreadsheet was introduced in 1978, and was important in making microcomputers respectable tools for today's business.

T.

Teletext: Television based system that displays publicly broadcast information.



software

Telex: The national and international text communication network. Merlin is the biggest supplier of micro-processor based telex terminals in the UK. Both the Merlin M2200 series computers and M3300 word processor can be linked to the telex network.

U.

User Friendly: A claim made by software sellers. Often promised, seldom delivered.

V.

Viewdata: System developed by British Telecom for sending computer data by telephone line for display on low-cost modified television sets and other terminals.

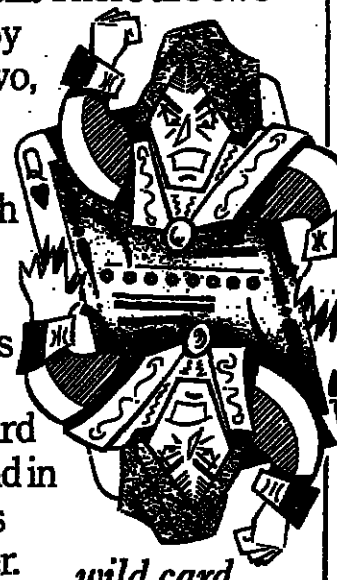
VDU: Visual Display Unit is jargon for the screen attached to your computer.

W.

Wild Card: Facility to allow you to find the information you want when you're not quite sure what you're looking for. Asking for Jock might produce records with Jock and Jockstrap, as well as Joke.

Winchester Disk: There are two types of disk, floppy and hard. Of the two, the hard disk in its sealed container is able to hold much more information which is loaded in to it from cassettes or tapes.

A compact hard disk unit often found in microcomputers is called a Winchester.



wild card

Z.

Zap: When you correct a fault inside the computer's memory by altering its signals you 'Zap' it.

Addenda

Some new or rarely used words, not in everyday use.

Advice If you want to ask an expert about some aspect of a Merlin computer before or after you've bought one, dial 100 and ask for Freefone Merlin.

After Sales Service Many computers have to be looked after by a dealer. He may have to look after lots of makes. Merlin, on the other hand, employs specialists, experts and engineers who handle only Merlin equipment.

Training Courses Merlin have courses to suit all types of business. They range from a half-day introduction to a complete week's training.

Reassurance Will the company you buy your computer from still be in business next year?

Or call us.

Why is it that computer people always talk so that only other computer people can understand them?

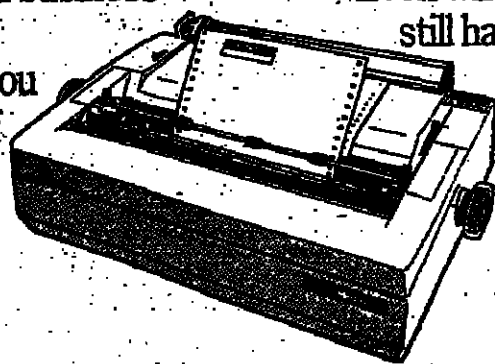
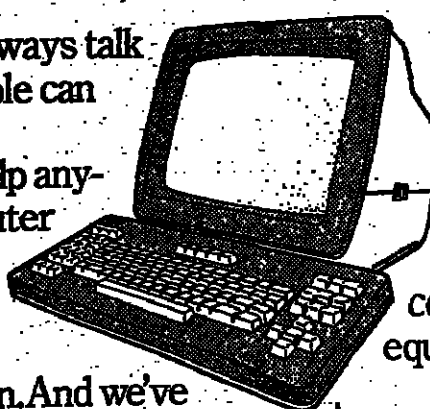
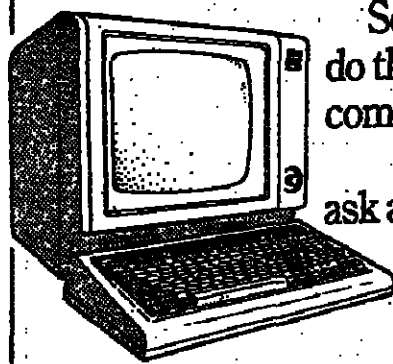
They don't seem keen to help anyone who wants a desk-top computer for their business but hasn't taken a degree in programming.

Merlin is different.

We're British Telecom Merlin. And we've been adapting high technology to the needs of the businessman all our life.

So it was only natural that we'd do the same with small business computers.

Which is why, if you ask about our range of desk-top com-



puters and word processors we'll tell you all about them in a language you'll understand.

English.

Needless to say you'll encounter some jargon. But we'll explain as we go along.

We also don't expect your staff to be as dedicated to a dedicated word processor as we are. Which is why we have a comprehensive series of training courses so that they can make the most of the equipment you buy.

What's the use of paying £3,000 for some hardware (there we go with the jargon again, but we reckon you'll know this one) when you can only use £1,500 worth?

Even when your equipment is installed, you may still have a few teething problems operating the programs you've chosen.

A mental block. You've mislaid the manual or pressed the wrong key.



In that case all you have to do is ring your local Merlin office, and one of our experts will help you solve your problem.

That expert will have exactly the same equipment as you, loaded with exactly the same software. So he or she can duplicate exactly where you got stuck. And tell you how to put it right.

If you're interested in talking to one of our people about your computer needs, it's simple. Just dial 100 and ask for Freefone Merlin.

If you want to be more complicated you can always fill in the coupon:

Please send me information about your word processors and desk-top computers.
To: Victor Brand, Merlin, FREEPOST London SW19 8BR
Name _____
Address _____
Tel. No. _____



Merlin

British Telecom Business Systems

Someone had to make it simpler.

THE TIMES DIARY

Parkinson show

Contrary to the belief of amused Conservative delegates in Blackpool yesterday, the light aircraft trailing the banner "Don't sack Cecil" over the conference centre was not hired by the beleaguered Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, The Cessna 125, which flew for an hour over the area, was piloted by the eccentric Brian Bateson, the local man responsible for flying the message. The Kremlin sends congratulations over the heads of the Greenham Common women earlier this year. Bateson, aged 43, director and chief flying instructor of Blackpool and Fylde Aeroclub, said: "Mr Parkinson needs support and it was about time someone did something about it."

Rum do

The annual public relations razzamattaz surrounding today's launch of the Lamb's Navy New calendar has suffered an inauspicious start. Poor David Bailey, who sweated around the French Polynesian island of Bora-Bora for several weeks taking photographs of dusky maidens, complained yesterday of the "tasteless" design of the invitations. Printed on an 18in long strip of 35mm transparency and delivered in a plastic film tub, they depict various under-dressed ladies accompanied by the caption "A personal invitation for you to get close up to the first exposure of the new 1984...". "They're ghastly. I don't absolutely nothing to do with me or Lamb's", stormed Bailey.

Sentimental agent

The new Sean Connery movie was premiered in Hollywood the other evening. It is not that most awaited 1960s revival, his return as James Bond in *Never Say Never*, for which he received a reported \$3m, but a short film on his home town of Edinburgh, for which he received no fee at all. However, he does retrace Bond's footsteps by going up the steps of Fort George, the Eton of the north and the alma mater chosen by Ian Fleming for his unshaken and seldom stirred hero. Connery himself had a more modest education elsewhere in Edinburgh before graduating to the horse and cart of the dairy in Fountainbridge.

Slow starter

Is the youthful-looking Bamber Gascoigne's comfortable reign as chairman of Granada's *University Challenge* coming to an end? The future of the programme, in its 21st year, is threatened by the decision of London Weekend Television not to include the new series in its schedules when it begins on October 23. LWT says it no longer has the air time to give the quiz a regular slot. Likewise Thames Television has decided not to displace another network programme to place it. So Londoners will no longer witness Gascoigne (Eton and Magdalene College, Cambridge Scholar), aged 48, calling for starters for 10. Granada's programme controller, Michael Scott, said LWT's decision is sad and will probably have a knock-on effect. But no one need worry about Gascoigne, who has many writing and publishing interests.

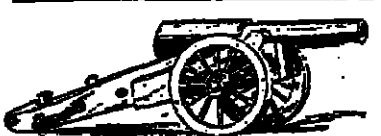
BARRY FANTONI



"But will he still be able to use his pass?"

Change of tone

Stanley Black may have misunderstood the arts for the proletariat policy of the Greater London Council when he arrived to conduct the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in the body plant canteen at Ford's Dagenham works yesterday. The concert was part of lefty GLC arts chairman Tony Banks's scheme to encourage performers to take themselves out of the better known cultural centres and provide intellectual refreshment for the workers. On arrival at Ford's desert in the midst of industrial Essex, Black asked a bemused official: "Where's my room?"



We all know Norman Fowler is under siege over health and social security cuts. But did he have to bring in the Army? Dr John Speakman, aged 51, is to be the new director of operational strategy in the DHSS on a £31,000-a-year salary. His current job, with the tank of brigadier, is running the computers in the Army's supply system, and he is said to have many years' experience in controlling large high technology projects in the MoD and Nato. Perhaps Norman is planning to make the Treasury.

PHS

Jobless: Prior's grim forecast

Prior: I think one of the extraordinary things about my position is that I have been regarded by the Conservative Party ever since 1974 as a person who was seeking a compromise and a way of uniting people, whether it be by unionists or whoever, and I presume that that was one of the reasons why in the end I was sent to Northern Ireland. There may have been other reasons as well, but that was one of them. And yet I suppose I have been the subject of almost more controversy in the views that I held than any other leading politician in the party.

I sometimes think my opponents can't have it both ways. They can't say to me, "You're a compromiser" on the one hand and then on the other hand, "You are always leading revolts against the leadership". The fact of the matter is that those who have tended to take my point of view - the so-called wets, if one has to give them a name - haven't perhaps given as much credit to the supply-siders as the dries have deserved for what they have accomplished.

And I don't think the dries have given much credit to the wets both for what they have sought to achieve in retaining those values of compassion and understanding which have always been a part of the Conservative Party. And also our desire to accept a large degree of radical reform. I don't think we do ourselves any good by continuing the argument in the barren way that it has been conducted in the past few years.

But we are the main arguments about the fundamental nature and logic of the Government's economic policy over?

Prior: I think there is far less argument about that now than there was. I don't see nowadays the constant reiteration of money supply being the only thing that matters that I saw five, six, seven years ago. I don't see the constant reiteration that supply side economics can put everything right that I did a few years ago. On the other hand, I have to say that on my side of the party there is a much greater realization that there are limitations on the amount of money that one can actually pump in.

Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the economy now?

Prior: I am certainly more optimistic than I was. I think the recovery has been patchy and I am still deeply worried about the level of unemployment, but certainly I think that there is a much greater realization in management and on the shop floor about what we have to do. I see no reason why we shouldn't achieve reasonable levels of growth, and I am glad that interest rates have come down, and I am glad that the pound has fallen in value.

Government economic policy has again been attacked by a number of senior Conservatives, among them John Biffen, Leader of the House, and Francis Pym, former Foreign Secretary. In the last Parliament, one of the Government's most persistent critics from within its own ranks was James Prior, Employment Secretary until becoming Secretary for Northern Ireland. Yet he has remained on the Cabinet's key "E" Committee, which formulates economic policy. In an interview with George Brock and Nicholas Wapshott, he began by explaining his sometimes awkward position in the Conservative Party.

Looking back over the years, I think one of my difficulties with the policy as it was originally enunciated was the high interest rate, high exchange rate policy. I think that the policy which we have pursued for the past few years has been very reasonable. I think that the relaxation of the policy has helped stimulate in a sensible way while at the same time keeping a tight control over public borrowing.

I have always been an optimist. But I don't think that the world is going to get back into the massive growth rates of the Fifties and Sixties and we do have to face up to the fact that as an old country we have become uncompetitive in many aspects. We are facing the full flood of competition from the labour market-oriented economies of the Far East and we face the problems of technology. I don't believe that simply pumping money into the economy at the rate the Labour Party suggests as a means of reducing unemployment would work. I don't think that even Keynes would be favouring a massive increase in public expenditure.

Therefore I think we have to recognize that unemployment as measured in a conventional sense is going to remain high in Western society and therefore you have to be, thinking the whole time of new ways of seeking to tackle the problems of unemployment and new ways of presenting the fact.

How long do you expect the present high levels of unemployment will last?

Prior: I have to say that for the whole of this decade we are going to be faced with a very difficult unemployment problem and I don't believe we are going to be able to solve the problem by simply, on the one hand pumping in vast sums of money, or on the other relying on the economy through changes on the supply side to bring about a transformation.

We shall have to do very well over the next few years to decrease unemployment by the methods which have proved successful in the past and I think that we have got to think of new ways of doing so. I don't think that we should be ashamed of saying what the debate is about, but one shouldn't put it in such a way that one is being callous about it.

Do you think that the Government has appeared too hard-hearted?

Prior: I think that it would be unfair to suggest that the Government is hard-hearted. There are elements in the Conservative Party who regard some of us as softies and that they are the only ones who are prepared to accept the hard arguments. I am quite prepared to put across very hard arguments and talk very toughly on things like wages and the need for greater efficiency and so on.

Yet at the same time I recognize that there are vast numbers of people in Britain who are intensely patriotic and proud of what they are doing but don't actually aspire to greatness in society; they just want to go about their ordinary daily task and live with their families in reasonable conditions. They have just as much dignity and deserve just as much respect as those who are able to be the front-runners in society.

Sometimes I think that we tend, for reasons of economics or because of our backgrounds, to think that everyone has got to be tremendously efficient and tremendously able and



enterprising and so on. That isn't what society is made up of. I can play a part in putting forward our policies in a sensible, reasonable, understanding way. Sometimes we don't always do so.

If the Government does not deliberately soften its image, will it not be vulnerable to David Owen and the SDP?

Prior: I think that Dr Owen's tactics may be the correct ones for him, which makes it even more important that people like myself should be seen to be playing a major part in the Conservative Party, not shirking the difficult decisions but seeking to explain them and showing the compassionate side. Compassion is a word that I am in no way ashamed of using.

I have represented a predominantly working class constituency all my time in Parliament and I could never have been elected unless vast numbers of very decent, ordinary working class people had not voted me in. Now, they don't resent the fact that I had a public school education. They don't resent the fact that I am a member of Bupa or what have you. They know all these things. They know I live in a bigger house than most of them and that I have a farm. They still vote for me. I sometimes wonder why, but they still vote for me.

Are you not open to charges of disloyalty to the Prime Minister to open up a wider debate about unemployment and the economy?

Prior: I don't think I have said anything on this subject in this interview which has been in any way disloyal to the Prime Minister. Therefore, if I can say what I have just said without it in any way being disloyal to the Prime Minister, I don't see why there shouldn't be a very considerable debate on it. I think it could achieve a great deal for us.

We have to understand on my side of the party the necessity for pretty tough measures and I think the other side of the party has to understand that if those measures are going to succeed and you are going to build a decent society then you not only have to explain what you are doing but you have to help in every way that you can. It's something we ought to be able to do in a second period of government.

It has been said that you are bored with your job as *Ulster Secretary* and that you would like to go back to the Treasury. Is that true?

Prior: No, it's totally untrue. If I were bored by the job I certainly wouldn't have told Mrs Thatcher that I was keen to go back after the election. I was extremely keen to go back, because I felt that I had started something in the Assembly, albeit something that was going to take time, and I wished to go back in a position where the Secretary of State didn't have to begin all over again.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now



Ray Buckton, shunted in to stage-manage the purchase of a theatre on the rocks

Enter left, brandishing rulebook

You will hardly believe this - I found it difficult to credit myself - but, not content with the newspaper and the bank that they intend to found and run (both of which wonderfully lunatic projects I have recently discussed here), the trade unions are now proposing to buy and manage a theatre.

The theatre is the Mermaid, which is unfortunately now for sale after falling into financial difficulties. Mr Abdul Shamji and his firm, Gomba, had made a bid for it, but the union consortium (Municipal and Boleyn, TGVU, Nalco and Nupps) has now entered the auction, and may yet snatch the prize from Gomba. Mr Shamji's nose, particularly if they can get their bank founded in time to advance the cash for the purchase, the question of arranging for favourable reviews of the plays in the TUC's newspaper can presumably wait for a bit, but the money might be a little shy if they approached ordinary sources of finance, if only because those in the business of advancing risk capital have probably noticed that most of our union leaders cannot run a bank, and Mr Ray Buckton, who is apparently in charge of the project, has not hitherto been known as an expert either on drama itself or the successful business management of playhouses and productions, or on anything else much, for that matter. So Messrs Codron and White, Hall and Nunn are probably not contemplating suicide at the thought of the new competition putting them out of business, and anyone who has read Hall's recently published *Diaries* will recall the effects of union action in his case, which was to bring the National Theatre to the very edge of closure and ruin and persuade Hall to vote Conservative for the first time in his life.

There is something wonderfully touching in the dotiness of this recent passion among the unions for venturing into areas of enterprise which require huge sums of money and enormous reserves of specialized skills, none of which they seem financial straits already. Indeed, one or two are not far from insolvency - and this state of affairs is almost certainly about to become,

abruptly, much worse, following the ruling that the sums advanced for the building of the new Labour Party headquarters should not have come from the unions' general funds. Part of the unions' money troubles can be attributed to the fact that unemployed members do not pay much in the way of subscriptions, and a general falling-off in the rate of recruitment has added to the decline in income, but most of the difficulty comes from good, old-fashioned incompetence, reflected in the appallingly high proportion of union funds that goes on administration - or bureaucracy, as the unions call it when they are attacking the government. Indeed, we have just seen a striking demonstration of the critical financial situation among the unions in the news that some of them - by no means all obscure or small ones - have been obliged, for the first time, to reduce the number of votes they buy at the Labour Party conference (they get exactly as many as they pay for - it is called an "affiliation fee" - and the numbers affiliated have traditionally borne little resemblance to the numbers of those eligible to be affiliated).

And this is the movement that wants to run a newspaper, a bank and a theatre! For all I know, plans are already well advanced for the TUC to go into all sorts of other businesses - a chain of men's outfitters, say (foot-wear labels guaranteed), or of grocery shops (no Chilean coffee sold), or a travel agency ("See the nightclubs of Moscow and the steel mills of East Germany - One-way tickets at fantastic discounts").

But a theatre? A theatre? Let us try to envisage the scene, literally as well as figuratively.

First of all, the name will have to go: Mermaid is far too frivolous, and there would certainly be complaints that it is sexist as well. The name of the union playhouse should reflect

its ownership, its aims and the kind of thing to be found on its boards. How about The Proletariat? (I can see the advertising campaign already: "What's on at The Proletariat tonight, darling?") Or, if a more human touch is thought desirable, what about The Len Murray? Some of the possibilities are fully interchangeable with names that I helpfully proposed for the TUC's newspaper - The Reference Book, for instance, or The Composite Resolution; other ideas can be sought in the history of this great movement of ours, such as The Waterloo Massacre, The Tolpuddle Martyrs or The Party-Hour Week (some of these sound more like pubs than theatres, I admit, but that might not be a bad thing as far as enticing the customers is concerned).

Then there is the question of repertoire. Here I have to offer the new management a word of warning: if they imagine that all those earnest left-wing playwrights - Griffiths, Edgar, Hare, Brenton, Barker - are going to rush forward with their plays, proud to have them put on at The Death to Blacklegs, they are right, but if they think that the earnest left-wing playwrights in question, seized by comradely feelings, are going to waive their royalties, I fear that disappointment may soon be felt backstage at The Flying Picket.

Even plays which are out of copyright, and on which therefore no royalties are payable, will pose problems. Shakespeare will be banned for a start: his attitude to the working-class, particularly in *Julius Caesar*, *Henry VI, Part II* and *Coriolanus*, is lamentably reactionary, and if the TUC Foldercloths should mount a production of *Hamlet* they will have to cut Act V, Scene I, or risk having the place picketed by the Gravediggers' Union, understandably affronted by

6 If they think that all those earnest left-wing playwrights, seized by comradely feelings, are going to waive their royalties, I fear that disappointment may soon be felt backstage at The Flying Picket 9

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Shelve this costly library plan

For the first time in a decade I have managed to forgo the pleasures of the party conference. Not for me Sir Ian Gilmour on The Strange Death of Tory England, the exchange with the Fourth Estate of scabrous gossip (in the cause of public morality) about the private lives of senior ministers, and advice from Julian Critchley about appropriate epithets for the Prime Minister. My guess is that, notwithstanding the interesting advance speculation, it will all turn out to be pretty much the victory celebration that it ought to be. But even if I am wrong and the journalists enjoy some of the insights that they largely missed at Brighton, I shall shed no tears for my absence.

Instead I have been giving thought to next week's confrontation in Cabinet on next year's spending plans. We are told that Peter Rook, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is still about £1½ billion short of his target for economies. If it is not too late, I would like to remind him of one candidate which seems so far to have escaped his attention. I refer to the British Library.

For those who have not followed the story so far, Shirley Williams approved in 1976, and Norman St John-Stevas endorsed in 1980, a plan to build a brand new British Library on a 9½-acre site next door to Euston Station. Since then the Prince of Wales has laid a foundation stone, and the bulldozers have got to work. But there are rumblings of discontent within the arts establishment. Professor Hugh Thomas - Lord Thomas, head of the Centre for Policy Studies and one of the "Prime Minister's trustees" - has mustered a formidable lobby of supporters, ranging from Sir Karl Popper to Lord Kador, from Sir John Bejerman to Iris Murdoch, in defence of the existing British Museum Reading Room in Bloomsbury, and produced a cheaper plan.

Lord Thomas and his friends are primarily motivated by allegiance to the Reading Room. So they want to use the Euston Road site as a giant storehouse for all the books, the Reading Room cannot accommodate them. This would be linked to Bloomsbury by an underground railway which, they are advised, would cost £2m to build. The whole thing, they estimate, would cost "not much more than" the £88m (in 1981 prices) earmarked for just the first stage of the official plan. By contrast, the official scheme, when complete, was estimated to cost £164m in 1977. Lord Thomas thinks that

should be amended to more than £308m by now, and reckons that if we proceed, the final bill will not show much change from £600m.

I am sure he is right about that. However, having read his persuasive pamphlet published soon after the general election, I wonder whether the Treasury might not wisely take advantage of the present disarray in the groves of academe and scrap the whole thing altogether.

The justification for this huge piece of public works - apart from the natural inclination of all institutions to get themselves a monument - is that all the books the Reading Room cannot accommodate (and it is supposed to receive a copy of every book published) have to be shipped off to dim and distant Woolwich, whence it takes all of 24 hours to collect them for would-be readers: that the Reading Room can no longer accommodate all those who require to use it; and that in this day and age it is nothing short of a scandal that we do not have a custom-built, properly air-conditioned, sanctuary for the national archive.

Now, according to Lord Thomas and his allies, if it was true that the Reading Room was short of seats back in the 1960s, that is not the case today. Still, I suppose 24 hours is an unreasonable time to wait for the volume of one's choice; and while the nation's stock of books has multiplied for 200 years without the benefit of proper air-conditioning, now that such scientific aids to preservation are on offer, our descendants might say: thank you to us for making use of them. But for £88m? Let alone £600m?

Nor is it just the capital cost which should terrify the Treasury. There is also the little matter of the running costs. Fifteen years ago the component bodies which are due to form the British Library limped along, it seems, with a payroll of £50. Last year this had grown to £1,300. The smart new palace on the Euston Road will apparently need £2,500 to keep tickle over to wait. We have it on the authority of John Biffen that the Tory party traditionally respects the role of public institutions. So be it. But here we have a brand new one which, if Lord Thomas is correct, no one wants. They could even sell the Euston Road site outright and credit that against the PSBR for 1984.

Lord Bruce-Gardyne was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

The Big Sister state rolls a little closer

The findings of the draft report into extreme right-wing penetration of the Conservative Party, produced by a committee of young Conservatives with the blessing of the former party chairman, raise uncomfortable questions about the direction in which the Tory party is turning.

It appears that not only have some people from the neo-Nazi fringe infiltrated the party but that some have actually stood as official Conservative candidates in general and local elections. But, though this report will be gleefully pounced on by some socialist propagandists, neo-Nazis have, in reality, only an insignificant place within the Conservative Party. Far more frightening in many ways are the civilised and undeniably democratic members of the New Right, operating from such base camps as the Conservative Philosophy Group, the Social Affairs Unit and the Centre for Policy Studies, because they do occupy places of influence in the heartland of the Conservative Party.

A main thrust of their arguments, forcefully expressed within the elite circles of their party, is that the role of the state is to be strengthened rather than weakened in many areas of everyday life. As Maurice Cowling, an influential Conservative ideologue, argues in a seminal essay, "Authority should be the byword of freedom."

The impact of these ideologues, and of the debilitating effects of the Irish question on British politics can be seen in a number of recent developments as well as proposals for the next session of Parliament. Taken together, they represent a significant lurch towards an authoritarian state.

In a move unprecedented in educational history, Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, sought last month to lay down the parameters of correct thinking in schools. He told a joint council of the O-level and CSE boards, preparing the syllabus of the proposed common 16-plus examination, that reference should be omitted from the physics curriculum to "the social and economic issues which arise from scientific knowledge."

In the case of the history syllabus, Sir Keith demanded "Acknowledgement that one of the aims of studying history is to understand the development of the shared values which are a distinctive feature of British society."

If a socialist Education Secretary had the temerity to tell schools that "one of the aims of studying history is to understand the oppositional values which are a distinctive feature of the class struggle in British society", it would be no less objectionable. Politicians, left or right, should be discouraged from defining for teachers the ideological aims of the classroom.

Sir Keith's clumsy attempt at ideological engineering comes at a time when ideological scanning by the state has become more obtru-

sive. Just as plastic bullets were first tried out in Northern Ireland, then adopted by many police forces in Britain, so techniques of surveillance developed in the context of the Irish conflict are also being shipped across to Britain.

The recent experience of Mrs Madeleine Haigh, who, after writing a letter to her local paper opposing the siting of cruise missiles, received a visit from Special Branch officers claiming to investigate a mail-order fraud (a claim which later proved to be bogus) has received extensive press coverage as an exceptional case. But the National Council for Civil Liberties has shown me papers which suggest that the Special Branch has developed dossiers on many law-abiding citizens, from opponents of blood sports, people frequenting homosexual pubs, those involved in the admirable "melting pot" organisations in Britain, to activists in the peace campaign. Confirmation that this surveillance has become excessive is provided by the symbolic decision of the Cornwall and Devon police taken last year to weed out a large number of Special Branch files on their local citizenry.

Yet, instead of seeking to roll back the frontiers of the state, the Government is actively extending its scope and range. Its proposed Police and Criminal Evidence Bill will extend the stop-and-search powers of the police force, and enable the detention of suspects for four days without charge. The supposedly temporary Prevention of Terrorism Act, hurriedly introduced after the Birmingham pub bombing in 1974, will be renewed in the next Parliament with its worst aspects intact. Even though only 2.1 per cent of 5,535 people arrested under its auspices have eventually been charged with offences under the Act, it will still be used to harass the Catholic Irish community in increasingly counter-productive intelligence-gathering exercises.

The Government also intends, in the next Parliament, to entrench the power of the centralized state in a way that is provoking opposition even from its most loyal supporters. Since 1901, local authorities have enjoyed the freedom to levy rates at whatever level they desired. This power now constitutes the one key area of decision-making left to local councils, already reduced by a series of centralizing measures to a minor, subaltern role. If this power is removed by central government *diktat*, as is being proposed, there will be little incentive for people to take part in local elections and still less scope for councillors to serve their constituents.

There was a time when conservatism was associated with getting central government off the backs of the people. This remains part of the rhetoric of platform speakers at the Conservative conference in Blackpool. But the rhetoric is now ceasing to connect with reality, as we move towards a Big Sister state.

The author is editor of *New Socialist*.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE CRIME OF VIOLENCE

The motion for debate on the Conservative Party agenda is seldom the precise motion on which the minds, hearts and speeches of most of the Tory representatives are concentrated. It is usually one which maximizes dissent – which was the case with the motion yesterday on law and order, which did no more than ask the government to take "further measures to strengthen the force of law." But a sensible Cabinet Minister on such occasions directs his speech to what is in the minds of his party and that is what Mr Leon Brittan did yesterday when he addressed the conference for the first time as Home Secretary.

What the conference wanted was stiffer sentencing for serious, and particularly violent crimes. The intense concern of the Tories in the constituencies was shown by the very large number of motions submitted on law and order – 99 compared with 27 on defence, 20 on the economy and 55 on employment and industrial relations. Overwhelmingly these demanded heavier penalties and greater realism in sentencing, which was also the sense of most of the speeches from the floor yesterday, though some sensibly reminded the conference that detection and punishment are not all sufficient remedies for a violent society.

The challenge to the government was that despite the money given to the police, and more intelligent policing methods, crime is rising. Every day the public is made aware of some new unspeakably vile offence against the person, and often the most vulnerable, the old, the very young, or women. That was the rationale behind the demands for a return of the death

penalty which the House of Commons rightly rejected as incompatible with the moral climate of the time. It is also the rationale behind the demand for heavier sentences now.

It is made not simply by Conservatives, but by a majority of voters who support all parties. On the "soft" side of the penal argument, what is usually stressed is the need for better detection of the criminal. That goes without saying, but it should equally go without saying that the vicious criminal has little to fear from detection if a soft sentence follows. What is no less serious, is the demoralizing effect of soft sentencing on both the police and the public. The police ask what is the point of taking risks to secure a criminal who pays a comparatively small price for his callousness. The public may lose confidence in the criminal justice system, and become less willing to give the police the co-operation on which successful detection often depends.

Having announced, at the time of the capital punishment debate, that twenty year minimum sentences will apply to those who murder police officers, Mr Brittan now intends to apply the same rule to those who murder prison officers, to terrorists and to those who commit sexual or sadistic murders of children. Those who kill when committing robberies with firearms will also serve a twenty year sentence and there will be "very long sentences" for killers of nightwatchmen, postoffice staff and others who do jobs that make them vulnerable. Very sensibly, Mr Brittan also intends to legislate to increase the maximum sentence for carrying firearms to life imprisonment,

and also to enable the Attorney General to refer over-zealous sentences to the Court of Appeal which would virtually indicate the proper penalty in future similar cases, though without altering the sentence of the case referred.

None of these changes infringes the tradition that the hands of the judiciary should not be tied, and that judges should be free to determine sentences in the light of individual circumstances. Without recourse to mandatory sentencing, he is signalling to the judiciary that, since life imprisonment means life unless he commutes it, he will not commute it to less than twenty years for the stated offences. That is a wise course and so is his proposal to meet public criticism of the gap between other sentences and the imprisonment served for them by new arrangements with the parole board.

To combine these changes with an attempt to clear the prisons of lesser offenders must be right and the Home Secretary will be widely supported. Yet in the end, the violence of a society is not merely determined by detection and penalties. It is a cultural phenomenon. The easy violence on television, film and video is part of this cultural phenomenon, and many people, producers, writers and businessmen, not to say the consuming public have responsibilities for it. It defies common sense to think that treating cruelty and violence as legitimate entertainment has no effect on behaviour. If the public itself will make it clear that it will not support a culture of violence, that would be at least as beneficial to a decent society as the measures Mr Brittan announced yesterday.

MR HESELTINE'S OPPORTUNITY

Mr Michael Heseltine has a chance today at Blackpool to show that the Government's thinking about British defence policy goes beyond the question of the nuclear deterrent. His White Paper in July was brutally upstaged the next day by the Chancellor's peremptory cuts. But it would be a pity if Mr Heseltine's sense of umbrage at that treatment throws him in opposition to the idea of any cuts, simply to prove that he cannot be pushed around. Cuts in defence there can be, and should be. With a little extra courage and some not very radical analysis Mr Heseltine could achieve both defence cuts and an improvement in Britain's long-term defences.

On mobilization the British Army is brought up to strength by reservists so that its order of battle consists of at least one-third part-time soldiers. The other two services have a smaller reserve component, but also a smaller capability for expansion. Since the abolition of conscription British military manpower has been reduced steadily – 13 per cent in the last ten years – with very little provision for expansion, unlike all the other European allies.

Britain thus suffers two penalties for the maintenance of strictly volunteer forces. It pays a much higher price for a much smaller military capability, in all three services, than any of the allies. Secondly it is condemned to a narrow military base which is unable to achieve the necessary expansion and is constantly being narrowed even further.

The rising cost of equipment and manpower over the last 20 years has shown that it is not possible to maintain all-volunteer forces at the original strength envisaged when con-

scription was abolished. Decline since 1962 has been unrelenting. It will become worse after 1986 when the number of young men between 15 and 24 will fall substantially and continue falling for ten years.

Labour governments have responded to this by ignoring the structural consequences and continuing with cuts. If a Conservative government is to have any claim to be the Party which shows respect for Britain's real security interests, it should now seize the opportunity of a radical restructuring in defence to achieve a better future.

This will involve breaking down the rigidities of manpower policy, career structure, procurement procedures and operational deployment which have paralysed the system hitherto. On manpower the present fixed ratios between regular and reservist forces should be revised. For too long the regular forces have been cut without any matching provision for expanding our military base in such an emergency. They could in fact be cut much more with the right machinery for expansion, which would draw on a much wider reserve of men and women taking part in properly constructed reservist schemes with appropriate training.

Once the armed forces can be weaned away from a natural obsession with structure, and protecting their narrowing base, manning levels in the forces could be fundamentally and profitably reassessed with a view to raising productivity in peace time. The ratio of officers to men needs to be reviewed. It compares unfavourably with many modern armed forces. So does the strength of each force, compared to its potential fire-

power. There will be a need for more recruitment of women, which should match the abolition of a ponderous career structure which guarantees servicemen a lifetime in the armed forces followed by pensions and associated services which cost £3,000 annually for each member of the armed forces. To that must be added their housing, the education of their children, and all their health and welfare which is carried on the defence budget.

On equipment policy there should be similar revision. The needs of an elite force, with high standards of professionalism, have led to a pervasive determination to purchase only the best equipment, designed and built in Britain. It is ironic that so much of this equipment was then shown up last year in a contest which had been able to buy its equipment on the open market. The cost advantages of more standardization within Nato, longer production runs, and more improvisation would be manifest.

Finally, deployment. The Soviet threat is met in Central Europe by forces of which the British contribution is a tiny part. Britain is much the best endowed European power to contribute to the emerging threat somewhere on the flanks since otherwise the Americans would be left to do it alone. In the 1980s the preponderance of British forces permanently maintained on the European continent should be lightened, with Britain's Rhine Army reduced and the Air Force redeployed. It is a complicated and radical exercise which is required. That is the challenge facing Mr Heseltine today.

MURDER IN RANGOON

The bomb explosion in Rangoon on Sunday which killed four South Korean Cabinet ministers and fifteen other people is the second tragedy to have struck South Korea in less than two months. In terms of its international significance, it does not compare with the destruction of the South Korean airliner off Sakhalin Island on September 1. Even its effect on South Korean domestic politics is unlikely to be excessively damaging. President Chun Doo Hwan has lost two of his most senior economic advisers, as well as a foreign minister of unusual ability and experience, as the result of the bombing. But he is in the fortunate position of being able to draw on a large pool of administrative talent, so his losses, though serious, are not irreplaceable. Even so, the bombing outrage is bound to increase the siege mentality of the South Korean government.

President Chun has had no hesitation in blaming the bombing on North Korea. The North Korean government of President Kim Il Sung is a particularly unpleasant regime which relies on a personality cult even more

odious than those of Stalin and Mao. Such an act of violence would be quite within its abilities. But there are grounds for questioning whether the North Koreans were, in fact, involved. Burma is one of the few Asian countries with which North Korea has good relations and the North Koreans would be unlikely to jeopardize their friendship with the Burmese in such a way.

There are moreover a number of minority and other dissident groups within Burma itself which might equally well have been responsible. Nonetheless President Chun is likely to stick to his conviction that the North Koreans were behind the bombing, and in one sense it is his conviction that matters. The bombing incident will reinforce the strident anti-communism of the government in South Korea and will probably lead to a further tightening of political control.

The state of confrontation which has existed in the Korean peninsula since the time of the Korean war is of little benefit to any of the principal parties concerned. None of the major

Trustworthiness as touchstone in public office

From Mr A. B. Duckar

Sir, In the Parkinson affair, it is a pity that you concentrated your editorial upon current sexual attitudes more than on the simple precepts of honesty and fidelity. Apart from the unnecessary suffering caused to the women personally involved, the importance for the nation at large rests in the fact that honesty and fidelity have been shown deficient in the character of a person appointed to represent us in high matters of state. Ordinary people at home and the representatives of other countries abroad, can perceive this fact, and it is the Prime Minister's duty to act to restore the trustworthiness of her Government.

Yours truly,
A. B. DUCKAR,
Conynbrook,
College Road,
Bath, Avon,
October 7.

From Mr Anthony Smith, QC
Sir, Yours is not a little paper run by a dated clique of aging public schoolboys raising laughs and circulation out of the follies of others. Because we all commit folly of some kind, it is easy enough for others to talk up such folly indiscriminately to destroy. On the part of the supposedly responsible it can be intellectual vandalism. In my judgment few politicians of any party inspire by appearances much admiration for real ability. For this observer, Mr Parkinson's appearance have for some years constituted a notable exception to that rule. I would not have thought the manifestation of honesty, or love, or loyalty, or even of sin that is supposed to be original and in us all, reveals such startling defects of character as to make him less fit to serve the rest of us now than he was when we did not know.

In this age of vaunted permissiveness and liberalism, when even what was recently thought unusual vice can be condoned as real love from the pulpit, there are still ways for establishment journals to make Parnells and Dilkes. I am disappointed that your paper, after all these years, should give the appearance of seeking them out.

A defence would have been more impressive. It would have been more useful, perhaps, to those whose sufferings you lament, too. Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY SMITH,
Skeffington, Leicester.

From the Reverend Richard James

Sir, While our hearts go out to all those directly affected by this tragic situation, its indirect consequences are equally disquieting. Why, if it is purely a private matter, was any public statement from No 10 deemed so necessary and issued so promptly?

Is the question of resignation ruled out so categorically because adultery, like any other sin repented of, can be fully forgiven, or because it is considered insignificant in today's climate where one in three marriages break up and one in seven families have only one parent?

On what scale of values was Lord Carrington respected for "doing the honourable thing" over a national disgrace of which he was not the personal cause, and Cecil Parkinson's services are now so insistently retained?

If it is true that "he who is trustworthy in little is trustworthy also in much", then has not a democratic nation the right to expect its leaders to possess, among other qualifications for high public office, the moral attribute of personal integrity?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD JAMES,
Bedford College of Higher Education,
Polhill Avenue,
Bedford,
October 6.

From Sir John Herbecq

Sir, I have no wish to comment on the Parkinson affair, but your comment (leading article, October 7) that "We all know too well that whatever society's aspirations to the contrary, life in this land is full of split homes, illegitimacy, and one-parent families" simply will not do. On the contrary, life in this land is full of united homes, legitimacy and two-parent families.

Despite the lamentable increase in split homes and the rest, those who have brought about this state of affairs remain a small minority in this land and there is no reason why their conduct should be held to have established a new norm in morality acceptable to a public at large who have no right to expect anything better in their leaders.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HERBECCQ,
Maryland Ledgers Meadow,
Cuckfield,
Haywards Heath,
West Sussex,
October 7.

From Mr J. F. Bird

Sir, Mr Parkinson's conduct has implications for his public life which cannot be dismissed as easily as your leading article suggests. Insofar as the character of a public figure is reflected in his private life, this surely must be a matter of public concern, whether or not public statements are made.

Leaving aside the moral issues, where there may be differences of view, Mr Parkinson has by his own admission betrayed personal relationships. This is dishonest. Also he is to be the father of a child who in effect will have no father. This is irresponsible.

When someone manages to make such a mess of their family life it gives me no confidence that they are in any way equipped to manage the affairs of state. And if the paying out of money is to be the Tory answer to a situation such as this, then God help us!

Yours faithfully,
J. F. BIRD,
17 Radcliffe Road,
Ramburgh,
Northumberland,
October 8.

From Mrs Vyvyan Evans

Sir, While I realize that your leading article on the "Parkinson affair" (October 7) is intended to give a fair and balanced view of the situation without innuendo, I must protest at the way in which you accuse the public of "one of its periodic fits of false morality and hypocrisy".

It is not the public which sends its reporters to hound the lives of well known people when they depart from accepted rules of behaviour but the editors of newspapers intent on exploiting the situation to the full. It is in the interests of society that marriage in general should survive and that those involved in this particular one should be allowed to sort out their difficulties without the harsh glare of publicity upon them. To the press, however, this is just another scoop – from the despicable *Private Eye*, with its particularly underhand way of forcing the matter into the open, to the bland and reasonable view of *The Times* in its leader.

Please do not accuse the public of "false morality and hypocrisy". The matter is in your hands. Yours faithfully,
VYVYAN EVANS,
Roden House,
4 Sheffields Road,
Brentwood, Essex.

From the Managing Director, English National Opera

Sir, Reports in *The Times* and other newspapers about the Priestley study of the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company raise some crucial issues in the area of arts funding. My regret is that the Priestley report discussed only two of the national companies with the resulting implication (in various newspaper articles) that the financial position of English National Opera is in some way more secure. The plight of the English National Opera is every bit as serious as that of the Royal Opera House or the Royal Shakespeare Company. English National Opera has, perhaps mistakenly, chosen to remain relatively silent about its problems while continuing to mount what we hope are enterprising seasons – but we must now stress that this has been against a background of Arts Council funding which has been progressively reduced, compared with the Royal Opera House, over the last fifteen years.

Opera's plight

Even the generous support we receive from the GLC does not restore the balance. Without relating a great catalogue of woe, may I, through your columns, set the record straight. The English National Opera is just as underfunded as the Royal Opera House and deserves, we hope, just as much consideration in all funding discussions – but I must personally be less than enthusiastic if the cost of this resulted in any system of direct funding.

Yours faithfully,
HAREWOOD, Managing Director,
English National Opera,
London Coliseum,
St Martin's Lane, WC2,
October 6.

From Mr J. C. Reynolds

Sir, Your leader "No time to tinker" (September 26) suggests that criticisms of Mr Fowler's 1 per cent cut in the health service budget are to be dismissed as "trigger-happy hysteria", though anyone who has been watching television news programmes knows that doctors and nurses – not given to hysteria – think otherwise.

You are, Sir, correct, of course, in saying that Mrs Thatcher fell into a trap of her own making when she said, before the election, "the health service is safe with the Conservative Government". She should have said "the health service will be dismantled gradually by the Conservative Government when we return to power".

Most people agree that we must reduce public expenditure, but why do ministers look first for cuts in the health service and education?

Cenotaph ceremony

From Mr J. M. Rex
Sir, I find Mr Wheldon's letter (September 30) and his frustration understandable, but inappropriate. His motivation, however, seems exclusively political. Those who died are, at one and the same time, the nation's dead, yet unpossessable. They belong to no political party.

There are still many opportunities to honour them, privately, in churches and at other ceremonies throughout this country each November, in addition to the honour and recognition paid by the Head of State at the Cenotaph.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES REX,
15 Southfield Road,
Westbury-on-Trym,
Bristol,
Avon,
October 3.

From Lord Brabazon of Tara

Sir, I feel I must protest at Sir Eric St Johnston's letter (October 1) proposing the burying of the America's Cup and the scrapping of 12-metre racing. The series gave many people all over the world a great deal of excitement and enjoyment, as well as the four million people who visited Rhode Island to see it.

In an age when so many sportsmen seem to demand a subsidy from taxpayer or ratepayer before taking to their chosen field, and there are so many so willing to distribute largesse providing someone else is paying, it is, I agree, unfashionable for someone actually to want to spend his own money in the attempted fulfilment of a dream. Sir Eric suggests each country should build a 12-metre should build two sail-training ships, but they were all built by individuals or syndicates, not by countries.

Nowadays everything is related to the number of jobs it may create. £5m is not a bad start just think what would have happened if Victory 83 had won and the next series had come to Britain, and how many training ships would have been funded by the spin-off. Well done, Mr de Savary, and let's hope you have another go next time, and win!

Yours faithfully,
BRABAZON OF TARA,
35 Cloncurry Street, SW6.

From Mr Maurice Logan-Salton

Sir, There is an increase of the increase in the numbers of juveniles receiving custodial sentences which is not mentioned in the letter from Ms Vivien Sierra (September 29). Since 1980 this country has lost most of its finest boarding schools for problematic youngsters, particularly those young offenders who nowadays are simply sent to detention centres and youth custody centres. In Scotland the schools are known as List D Schools, while in England and Wales they are called Community Homes with Education (CHEs).

These boarding schools represented the positive approach to those youngsters deemed by the courts to need to spend a period away from their homes, and as such were a major national resource in the fight against crime.

Hospital cuts

Most people agree that we must reduce public expenditure, but why do ministers look first for cuts in the health service and education?

May I suggest that substantial savings could be made by (1) reducing our contribution to Nato to the level of that provided by other impoverished countries, such as Italy; (2) abandoning Trident and Fortress Falklands, neither of which we can afford; (3) abandoning farming subsidies, which result in unmarketable food surpluses; and (4) abandoning plans for abolishing the GLC and the metropolitan counties, which you yourself have

warned may well prove an expensive fiasco (apart from the additional cost to the state caused by the "substantial job losses" which Mr Jenkins forecasts).

Yours faithfully,
J. C. REYNOLDS,
The Cottage,
7 Banbury Lane,
Byfield,
Northamptonshire,
September 29.

Rugby line-up

From Mr David Heald
Sir, Mr John Payne's justified indignation (September 27) at the all too selective distribution of international tickets by the Rugby Football Union will hardly be assuaged by Mr David Gabbitt's somewhat glib reply (October 1).

As an ageing, overweight former extra A player and a life member of a well-known rugby club, I am still not always able to procure tickets for internationals at Twickenham.

The evident assumption that only rugby club members are interested in rugby is patronizing. In no other sport is this "tickets for the boys only" policy practised. Only the touts can benefit from it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HEALD,
Darwin College,
The University of Kent,
Canterbury, Kent,
October 4.

Deficit financing to aid recovery

From Mr Bryan Gould, MP for Dagenham (Labour)

Sir, In your even-handed comment on Neil Kinnock's Brighton speech (leading article, October 7), you warn against ignoring "the damage done to competitive production by eroding money values as a result of over-borrowing by the Government".

This is an odd warning to give at a time when the Americans are busy showing us the immense benefits to be gained from deficit financing. By following Keynesian prescriptions in this regard, the Americans are raising output and cutting unemployment without running into inflationary problems. Their experience demonstrates that expansion needs financing and that deflation can safely be undertaken when there is a substantial margin of spare capacity.

In this country, we have so far taken only a few faltering steps along that path. Yet, in the 15 months to March 31, 1983, our Government happily presided over a £24.6bn increase in bank lending to the private sector. The consequences were not the erosion of money values you warn against, but lower interest rates, lower inflation and a modest economic recovery.

Surely the evidence is that we need more of the same, so, why leave it to the private sector? Over the same 15-month period, the Government took £2.4bn out of the economy, thereby pulling against the direction so enthusiastically taken by the private sector.

If only the Government were prepared to do its bit, by underfunding (so that there was no upward pressure on interest rates), we might yet get a really effective American-style stimulus, without which our pitiful "recovery" is doomed to peter out.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN GOULD (Chairman,
Labour Economic Policy Group),
House of Commons,
October 10.

Inner-city churches

From the Reverend Prebendary R. A. Coogan
Sir, I have much sympathy with Mr C. Hammond's plea (October 4) for inner-city churches which provide "a setting within which the liturgy can be enacted most expressively and fulfilled most completely" and I share his concern about the liturgical and architectural merit of modern churches and the replacement "worship centres".

However, it must be said that the inner areas of our great cities have simply too many churches. The great majority were built between 1850 and 1900, often at the whim of individual priests or donors who could not have foreseen the social and economic facts of the 1980s.

In the London Borough of Camden there are 32 Anglican parish churches, serving a population which has halved since most of those churches were built. Many Christians would find it hard to justify the retention of all these churches and, leaving aside questions of staffing and other pastoral considerations, the Church can no longer provide adequate finance for their proper upkeep.

If all the inner-city churches are to be kept, even as architectural "signs", then substantial financial resources must be found from non-Church sources.

We do appreciate the love and self-sacrifice of small devoted congregations, but should the upkeep of buildings be the first call on their efforts? I have personal experience of a parochial church council which, after years of unequal struggle, voted unanimously to have their church declared redundant.

That congregation is now part of a living Christian community worshipping in another building. They have gained by their courageous decision. Redundancy and demolition can lead to growth in the church of the inner city.

Yours faithfully,
R. COOGAN,
Vicar and Area Dean,
The Parish Church of All Hallows,
Hamstead,
27 Thurlow Road, NW3,
October 5.

Grave thought

From Mr G. W. Thomas
Sir, Some time ago a notice outside an Edinburgh park which said, "downputting of uplifted children," led me to assume an enlightened Scottish attitude to the problems of youth. My view was modified by a longer acquaintance with the organical, but now that I am approaching an age which engenders contemplation of the hereafter I am encouraged to find an unequivocal statement of policy on a notice in the cemetery of Rosslyn Chapel (Borders region) which says: "No children allowed into this burial ground unless accompanied by parents or guardians".

Yours faithfully,
G. W. THOMAS,
Lowfield,
Ambleside,
Cumbria,
September 29.

Bar to progress ?

From Mr Michael O'Neill

Sir, Even in this centre of excellence the Fellows' car park at St Catherine's College bears a notice reading: "These gates may be closed at any time and unauthorised cars removed" – over the enclosing 12ft walls, presumably.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL O'NEILL,
1 Lammas Field,
Cambridge,
October 4.



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In March Bob Hawke, the ebullient former Rhodes scholar and trade union leader, led the Labour Party to a landslide victory in the general elections. Tony Duboudin writes from Melbourne on the performance of the new government.

Seven months into its term, the new Australian Labour government, the first since Mr Gough Whitlam's administration, has avoided the mistakes, turmoil and shoot-from-the-hip style that characterized the Whitlam years.

There has not been the flurry of legislation, initiatives and pronouncements which marked the last Labour term. While the watchword in Canberra now is evolution rather than revolution, the difference between the last Labour government and Mr Bob Hawke's administration is also as much a matter of style.

The Prime Minister's team has made some *faux pas* — the "spy" flight over Tasmania at the time of the Franklin dam row and the dispute with the chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (as it then was) come to mind — but none of them was allowed to develop into a major issue. Mr Hawke acted rapidly and effectively to dampen any possible trouble.

The most significant matter, which has marred an otherwise fine record, has been the Coombe-Ivanov affair, and there too Mr Hawke acted rapidly and ruthlessly in seeking, and obtaining, the resignation of Mr Mick Young, the Special Minister for State, and a close personal confidant. By that action the Prime Minister made it clear that he was not going to allow the actions of an individual to embarrass his government, something which happened all too often under Mr Whitlam.

The Royal Commission, established by Mr Hawke to look into the affair and Mr David Coombe's relationship with Mr Valeriy Ivanov, a Soviet diplomat, has proved an

embarrassment for the Government. With hindsight Mr Hawke probably wished that he had not set it up. However, it did prove that the Prime Minister was not going to show any favours to colleagues.

Mr Young was alleged to have tipped off a Canberra lobby correspondent that a Russian diplomat was about to be expelled.

Mr Hawke has created a Hawke government first and secondly, and some say almost incidentally, a Labour government. While this style of leadership has not won him any friends among Labour Party idealists, it has certainly gained the confidence of business and investors.

Sometimes it is hard to grasp that there has been a change of party in Canberra. One newspaper columnist described Mr Hawke as more of a conserva-

tive than Mr Malcolm Fraser, the former Prime Minister.

Despite this conservative approach, the Labour government has managed to retain the confidence and, more importantly, the support of the union movement, although there are signs that the honeymoon may be drawing to a close. The social contract with the unions and employers, thrashed out at the national economic summit held in Canberra in April, has largely held good despite ruminations from left-wing unions.

However, the most important test of the accord will be whether the more extreme unions will be happy with the 4.3 per cent national wage decision granted by the Arbitration Commission. Should they consider it inadequate, the Prime Minister can look forward to a stormy few months.

His ability to hold wage

demands at reasonable levels will almost certainly be the issue upon which this Labour government will be judged. It is also essential if it is to have any chance of fulfilling its election pledge of creating 500,000 new jobs during its three-year term.

Encouraging hi-tech industries

So far there are few signs that Labour will be any more able to reduce unemployment than its predecessors. There was an imperceptible drop in the number of jobless in the most recent quarterly figures but hardly anything to warrant rejoicing.

Unemployment is unlikely to improve until the world economy picks up and then not

necessarily significantly. Australia, in common with similar industrialized nations, faces the problem of aging, inefficient industries. The problem is compounded in Australia's case by its being a country with a high-wage structure in the midst of a low-wage cost region.

Any wage explosion, as well as jeopardizing Labour's economic recovery programme, will rekindle memories of the last Labour government and the runaway inflation of the Whitlam era. That, more than any other single point, gave Mr Malcolm Fraser his biggest stick against Labour.

This fear of precipitating another inflationary spiral has undoubtedly influenced Mr Hawke's approach. Under Mr Whitlam, inflation reached more than 17 per cent, fired by a free-spending public programme.

The government, also aware of Australia's industrial shortcomings, has taken a number of initiatives to encourage the high technology sector with generous tax concessions for investors in high-risk industries. However, in some areas, particularly computers and related products, Mr Barry Jones, the Minister for Science and Technology, believes that it is already too late for Australia. He says the country has "missed the boat".

Mine and farm are big export earners

While long-term prospects lie in new industries, mining and agriculture will remain Australia's major earners of export income.

Mr Hawke faces opposition from within the Labour Party and from the unions over uranium mining and the government's attitude to Indonesia over East Timor.

The party's policy on uranium, agreed to after extremely tortuous negotiations, in which Mr Hawke played a leading role, is that existing mines should be allowed to fulfil contracts entered into but that no new contracts should be signed or new mines started, except where uranium exists with other minerals. Ultimately the policy commits Labour to phase out the industry.

Mr Hawke has now said that he feels existing mines should be allowed to negotiate new overseas contracts to enable them to dispose of their production. This is a liberal interpretation of the letter of the party policy, if not the spirit.

Mr Hawke further angered the anti-uranium lobby by criticizing the demonstrators who blockaded the Roxby Downs mine in South Australia in August. Speaking in Tasmania he said: "You see some of the same faces there as were here (protesting against the Franklin dam in Tasmania)." The phrase was reminiscent of a more conservative government.

The Prime Minister has already received two warnings from the party and its backers on the uranium question. The Victoria branch of the party warned the government not to water down its policy and the Australian Council of Trade Unions also told the government not to soften its line. Mr Hawke has, apparently, ignored both warnings.

On foreign policy Mr Hawke has ignored party policy on the East Timor question and has accepted as fact Indonesia's takeover of the former Portuguese colony, again angering both wings of the party. The East Timor issue is one that soured Australia's relations with its nearest and largest neighbour, particularly because of the five newsmen killed by Indonesian troops during fighting following the Djakarta takeover.

Captivated by the Queen Mother

Mr Hawke again attracted some criticism, although of a milder nature, when he went to London and was seen by Australian television viewers to be captivated by the Queen Mother. The obvious pleasure he showed in her company did not quite fit in with his previously stated republican views.

Mr Hawke has been described as representing a new breed of politician. That may be true, but the problems he faces are not new; they are similar to ones faced by virtually every leader in the Western world. It remains to be seen whether he can provide the leadership and new direction that Australia seeks to lift it out of the depression.

It is unlikely that any recent Australian political leader has come to power with such high hopes. The size of the task Mr Hawke has shouldered is enormous and is likely to be matched only by the disappointment among his followers should he fail.

On other pages

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Mining; horseracing 20

Australia



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Nobby Clark

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AUSTRALIA

Foreign policy is, more than any other, the area in which the young Hawke government has made its mark, although in a manner distressingly pragmatic to many Labour purists. Though both Bill Hayden, the foreign minister, and Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, are keen to trumpet their interest in human rights questions, their attitude has been tempered by national self-interest. Concern has been expressed about human rights under the regimes of Chile and the Philippines, but the administration has turned a blind eye to the continuing tragedy on Australia's northern doorstep in East Timor.

Sections of the Labour Party continue to worry about the fragmentary reports of a renewed Indonesian military

offensive in East Timor following isolated uprisings by the East Timorese.

Those strange allies, Mr Hayden and Mr Hawke, the man who ousted Mr Hayden from the Labour leadership the day this year's election was announced, have conspired to prevent a major confrontation within the ruling party over the thwarting of Labour policy on East Timor.

In Labour's seven months in office the focus has switched decisively from preoccupation with Australia's alliance with the United States to concern with its role within its own region, most importantly with members of Asean (Association of South-East Asian Nations), and with its scattered eastern neighbours in the Pacific.

Australia's ambivalence

towards Indonesia, Asean's most powerful member and Australia's nearest neighbour, is long standing and real. East Timor has been jettisoned by the Labour leadership in order to cement relations with Jakarta.

Under the previous Liberal (conservative) government, Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, took firm personal control of foreign policy. He spread Australian influence throughout the world, and in particular, with its Asian neighbours.

Foreign policy is one of the few areas on which Mr Hawke

has not imposed his personal stamp. Had he done so, the Labour Government's foreign policy would have been little different from that of the previous administration - internationalist, sympathetic to the US, fiercely anti-Soviet.

Mr Hayden, having lost his party's leadership to Mr Hawke, has refused to cede control of foreign policy. He is one of the few ministers who have asserted themselves over Mr Hawke; Australia's switch of emphasis from the US to Asia reflects this.

Mr Hayden spent the first

FOREIGN POLICY

Turning a blind eye to tragedy

months of government out of the public eye, nursing his wounds and listening to his department's advice. He emerged to announce that improved relations with Asia were his main goal and promptly flew off to meet President Suharto of Indonesia. This was followed by trips to other Asean members and to Vietnam.

In seeking to persuade Asian leaders that the government saw Australia's future in Asia, Mr Hayden faced two obstacles in Labour Party policy, which is theoretically binding on a Labour Government. The first was support for East Timorese self-determination, a stance fiercely resented by Indonesia, and regarded with suspicion by other Asean states. The other obstacle was a commitment to provide aid to Vietnam. This, too, was resented by Asean members, for whom Vietnam's presence in Cambodia is an important policy concern.

Mr Hayden and Mr Hawke have simply ignored Timor, professed their desire for improved relations with Indonesia

and avoided a confrontation in the Labour Party over the issue by the recent fortuitous UN decision not to debate East Timor this year.

On Vietnam, the government has similarly avoided both implementing policy and internal manoeuvre by the grandiose expedient of offering to mediate between Asean, Vietnam and China over Cambodia.

Though there is little likelihood of this offer being taken up, it enables the government to refuse to implement party policy, which is of great symbolic importance to the Labour left wing because of its strong opposition to the Vietnam war, while the mediation proposal is on the table.

On these two issues as much as any other the maturity and pragmatism, but the loss of idealism, of the Hawke Government are apparent. Its attitude stands in contrast to that of the previous Labour administration under Gough Whitlam, which fell from power in 1975.

Mr Hawke made talks with President Reagan the highlight

of his first overseas trip, delivered an unqualified endorsement of continued close relations between the two countries and, to the surprise of many Australians, was seen as a warm ally of Central America, warmly applauded US policies in that turbulent region, in which Australia has no direct interest.

While Mr Hawke reassured the conservative Australian electorate that little had changed since the passing of the Liberal government, Mr Hayden persuaded the administration to agree to a joint statement spelling out each country's role and responsibilities under Asean (Australia/New Zealand/US alliance).

As Mr Hayden sees it, the alliance remains important but Australia must develop greater self-reliance in foreign policy and defence strategy and procurement. The new policy has provided general endorsement from the Liberal Opposition yet leaves the present government scope to move closer to Asia.

To emphasize the shift in Australian priorities, Mr Hayden concluded his announcement in September with the footnote that though Asean was important, relations with Britain were more important.

Relations with Britain show little sign of changing under

Labour. Mr Hawke knows that republicanism is electorally unpopular and will not push the issue. The main concern of Australia's policy-makers focuses on trade relations with Britain as filtered through the European Community. Tension over agricultural trade has diminished with the change in government but there is potential for conflict over Labour's unresolved policy to ban uranium exports to France.

On South Africa, the Labour government has surprisingly softened its conservative predecessor's stance on sporting contacts in what can only be described as an opportunistic concession to Australia's objection with sport.

Disarmament has not been an important public issue in Australia. The debate has been confined to specialists and a small peace movement, but Mr Hayden has tentatively raised the issue in the hope of initiating a public debate and has appointed a special disarmament ambassador. He has also proposed a Pacific nuclear-free zone (which would nevertheless permit US nuclear vessels to cross the Pacific) and a government-funded peace institute.

Ian Davis
The Age

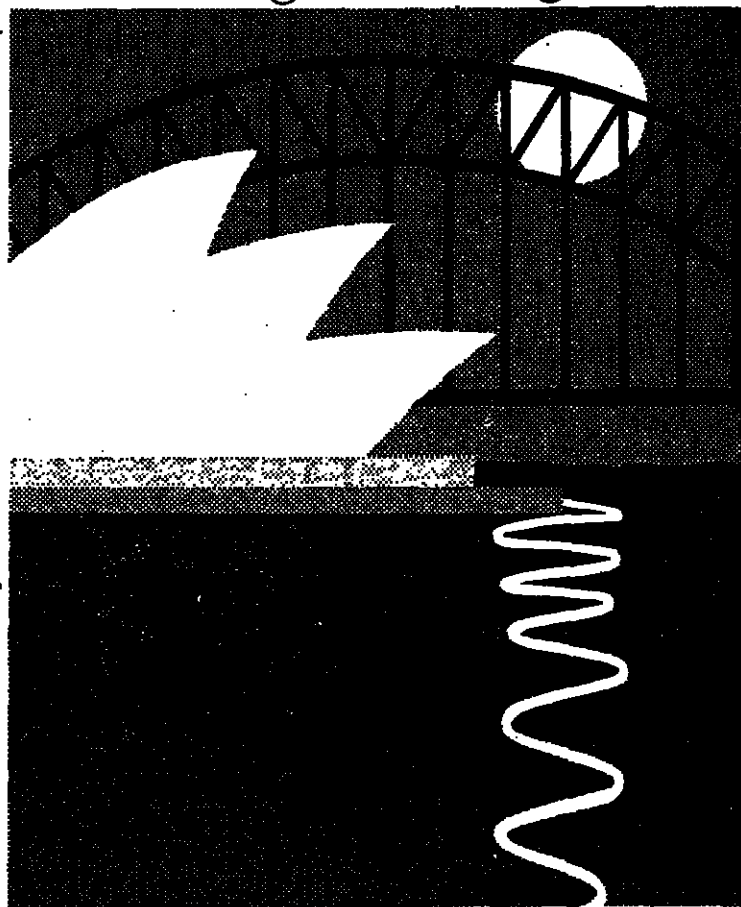
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FOREIGN INVESTMENT

New realism to conquer old fears?

The Hawke government had to address itself to the issue of foreign investment only three days after its resounding victory at the polls. In the run-up to the March 5 election more than \$A3,000m (£1,818m) had fled the country, and on March 8 the government was forced to devalue the Australian dollar by 10 per cent to restore some sanity to the domestic money market and stability to Australia's capital account.

The Australian Labour Party is profoundly distrustful of foreign capital. Xenophobia partly explains it. Perhaps more to the point, however, is the fear of being controlled by outside forces, of having control and sovereignty diminished by an interest incompatible with Australia's perceived national interest. It was these concerns which led the Whitlam government (1972-1975) to seek billions of petrodollars, not through its fiscal agent of long standing (Morgan Stanley), but via Tishit Khemlani, who was indicted by a federal grand jury in New York for conspiracy in 1980.

However, Bob Hawke, the new Prime Minister, and Paul Keating, the Treasurer, do not share their party's more extreme views on foreign capital and foreign investment in Australia. During visits to New York and Washington since their election, both have taken pains to reassure foreign bankers and investors that Australia welcomes foreign investment. Mr Keating, while shadow Treasurer, met several foreign bankers resident in Australia, partly to disabuse them of any latent concerns over a Labour government, partly to listen to their views.

Although Mr Keating has made a number of controversial

decisions on foreign investment, his mind has been elsewhere. On being elected, the government faced heavy budgetary problems and its Treasurer, while a politician of formidable acumen, was unschooled in economics. He had a budget to present only five months after his appointment.

In July last year the Labour Party held its biennial federal conference. This conference is the supreme policy-making organ of the party, and what it decides is meant, at least in theory, to be binding on a federal Labour government. The latitude which the government has in the timing of the introduction of the party's policy.

The Labour Party's policy on foreign investment says, *inter alia*, that a Labour government will "maintain the existing restrictions on foreign entry to strategic sectors of the economy, including banking, and reverse the current trend towards increased foreign domination of the Australian economy, by seeking increased Australian ownership and control of resources and enterprises and by carefully regulating foreign investment and short-term financial flows". It will also "expand the functions of the Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) and establish clear guidelines for the entry and expansion of foreign enterprises in Australia, by taking steps to require majority Australian participation in new projects in all sectors, including by public equity, for example, through the Resource Development Fund".

The policy also seeks to preserve key, yet unspecified, sectors of the Australian economy for solely Australian ownership, control the level of borrowing in the domestic capital market by foreign companies, but encourage foreign capital through overseas and offshore borrowing, rather than in the form of equity.

Mr Keating has instructed his department to review Australia's foreign investment policy

in the light of the above. The review was intended to be completed by the end of September, but it has not yet appeared.

Since the election the government has administered a policy drawn up by its predecessors, which speaks in vague and general terms of "net economic benefit", a term that has been subject to much lofty exegesis. While Canberra bureaucrats maintain that there has been no policy change under Mr Keating, there has, in fact, been a substantial change in the interpretation of the policy. Whether that change has come from Mr Keating himself or the bureaucrats who advise him, is a moot point.

One senior adviser concerned over this development said: "FIRB's attitude to the handling of applications has become much tougher. Their reports are much tougher and so are their recommendations. For the most part they have been accepted by the Treasurer."

Under this new look FIRB, every application is regarded *de novo*, past decisions now appear to carry little weight at all. This is especially so when it comes to changes of ownership in the financial sector. To an incredulous financial community, Mr Keating refused a deal whereby the American Citicorp would sell 49.9 per cent of a large merchant bank and discount house, Citicorp Australia, to Australia's second biggest life insurance company, National Mutual T-and-G Life. In return, Citicorp would buy Grindlays Australia, a wholly-owned offshoot of Grindlays Bank. Citicorp was selling 49.9 per cent of a company with assets of \$A420.1m to acquire a company with assets of \$A107.7m. Mr Keating could not see a net economic benefit in the transaction.

He has also refused foreign acquisitions in manufacturing, Australia's giant farming trade and financial house, Elders DLI, was not permitted to sell

its edible foods division to Unilever Australia because of the increased foreign control of the edible oils industry, particularly retail margarine, which would follow. Likewise, a takeover of the Australian sweet confectionery, by Cadbury Schweppes Australia, and a local private company, Nelson Australia, was refused on the grounds that Cadbury Schweppes already had a majority position in the domestic non-chocolate sector of the confectionery industry.

When the present government assumed power, its precursor had already called for applications from "foreign banks for about 10" new banking licences. Towards the end of May, Mr Keating issued a statement rescinding the previous government's offer and announcing a new mini-inquiry to review the Campbell Committee's recommendations on the financial system in the light of the new government's "economic and social objectives". This committee, dubbed the Martin Committee, after its chairman, Vic Martin, a senior Australian banker, is due to report to the Treasurer by late next month.

The consensus among advisers suggests that only four or five foreign banks will be admitted. This would imply one bank each from Britain, the United States and Japan and, perhaps, two from continental Europe. There seems little chance that foreigners will be allowed to own more than 50 per cent of any new bank.

Foreign investment policy in Australia is in transition. Two reviews are underway; each will be addressed to a government wedded to the notion that the economic system can, and should, be used for its social objectives. This, laced with pragmatism, will guide policy in Mr Hawke's first term.

Simon Holberton
The Age

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AUSTRALIA

ECONOMY

Luck fails the Lucky Country

Three or four years ago the Australian economy was managed with admirable conservatism by Malcolm Fraser, whose views coincided with those of John Stone, permanent head of the Treasury. The inflation rate was well below the average of that for members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and, when oil prices jumped, Australia, with its stability and energy riches, became the darling of the world financial community.

However, that was mostly a chimera. Oil prices fell and drought struck the rural areas. That could not be helped. But Australia has also had a burst of economic mismanagement and union bloody-mindedness unmatched since the Whitlam-Cairns era of 1973-75.

The outcome was: inflation now running at double the OECD rate; a federal budget deficit of nearly \$A8,400m (£5,000m) or 4.7 per cent of gdp; unemployment at 10.3 per cent and officially forecast to rise in 1983-84; corporate profitability reduced to the lowest post-war level and no rise in private investment or self-sustaining recovery in sight.

Overall, the economy shrank by 2 per cent - Australia's worst annual performance since 1946. In the past two months the economy has ceased to contract, and, with farming reviving strongly, it is heading for moderate growth in 1983-84; official forecasts have edged up to 3.5 per cent.

The growth is largely the result of an 18.5 per cent rise in spending by the Fraser government (6.3 per cent in real dollars) in 1982-83, and projected rise of 15.8 per cent (7.2 per cent real) under Bob Hawke.

Neither Australian leader has faith in such a Keynesian prescription for a sick economy. To a degree, Mr Hawke was locked into a giant deficit this year by Mr Fraser's vote-buying budget 14 months ago. However, the Labour Prime Minister passed over the chance to trim it by a couple of billion dollars.

He argued that an apparently excessive deficit was justifiable because his pre-election agreement with the union movement (further limited at the union-government-employer summit talks in May) would hold down wages growth. The agreement involves full indexation of wages to the consumer price index.

Mr Hawke has had one nasty shock already, with the consumer price index 4.3 per cent, or nearly one per cent more than he expected.

The agreement may also be starting to unravel as stronger unions aim at above-indexation rises. But it is too early yet to know whether the breaches so far, such as the \$A16 rise spreading through the chemical industry, are the first of many.

Even if the union leaders stick with the agreement - and they are angry with Mr Hawke over his policies on superannuation taxes and tariff barriers - the workers on site take a less lofty view of national requirements. Regardless of unemployment levels, wage cuts are not part of their vocabulary.

The Australian workforce enjoyed a real wage growth of about 7 per cent in 1980-82, at the expense of corporate profitability, and even the present two years of zero real wage growth leave workers reasonably well off.

Still, things could have been worse. From December 1982 to June 1983, unions went along with a wage pause. Future indexation is likely to be half-yearly rather than quarterly, allowing some restoration of profit share to corporations. An orthodox fiscal policy, coupled with orthodox fiscal policies, slowly got the economy out of the mire after 1975. But there is no guarantee that even if indexation is adhered to in the next two or three years, the new combination of indexation and mega-deficits will work.

In a review of Australia's five-year economic outlook last month, Lloyds International predicts only a slow recovery to 1985-86, a quick boom and then poor performance to 1988. The forecast appears to take as its premise an inability of the Hawke government to keep control of wage rises. Any failure of the 1983-84 budget strategy, moreover, could cause Labour to adopt worse rather than better strategies.

In the past 12 months interest rates have come down slightly, despite financing of the \$A4,500m deficit. This occurred partly because of falling international rates and partly because of the slump in investment, and hence in corporate sector borrowings - a matter of cold comfort. Indeed, new capital raisings by listed companies in the March quarter were negative - the first time

this has been reported since 1950.

The outlook for interest rates in the coming year is more precarious, especially if the US rates start to rise. As the Treasury noted in the budget papers, sales of government bonds to the non-bank sector in the single year 1982-83 were greater in real terms than total sales to the non-banks during the whole of the 1970s. In 1983-84, the non-banks will have to digest an equivalent offering again.

Financial markets are becoming sceptical of governments' ability to deliver their promises on monetary policy. For five successive years the government has overshot its own targets on monetary growth, hardly conducive to confidence in financial markets. The current target is 9-11 per cent (M3), still disturbingly high. Meanwhile the floor being set under interest rates by government funding needs, makes a recovery of private investment less likely - the normal problem with government-led recoveries.

Corporate gross operating surpluses (profits, before interest and direct tax) fell 17 per cent in real terms in 1982, and after-interest surpluses would have fallen even more sharply. Even after the slight rises in profitability in the past half year, the health of the corporate sector is close to its lowest point on record, the previous nadir being 1974.

In manufacturing, output in 1982-83 tumbled 11 per cent, far exceeding the previous notorious decline of 1974-75. Housing construction sank by 25 per cent, but this has now revived as a result of all the money that the government has thrown at it. The revival of manufacturing is not yet predictable though surveys of levels of confidence are just starting to register an important move.

One survey of the metal and engineering sector a few weeks ago recorded that it had suffered the worst shake-out in 20 years, but with an upturn expected later in 1984. Almost half the respondents were restructuring, but not through investment; they were substituting imported parts, narrowing product lines, and merging with rivals.

British businessmen have been heartened by anti-protectionist comments by Labour government leaders, including

Bill Hayden, the foreign minister, who said in September that Australia was "combining geriatric industries in a sort of formaldehyde of protection". The Australian British Trade Association says it is of tremendous significance that the government so early in its tenure (and despite the recession) has recognized the need for freer trade.

Statements by Australian governments on freer trade have been two-a-penny for decades, while protective barriers continue to be raised. However, the Hawke government has put its policies where its mouth is in the case of Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP), which was given a package of bounties and market-share guarantees, but in exchange for promises of \$A800m investment over five years and specified productivity gains, to which unions have agreed. The target is 250 tonnes per man-year, compared with an indicative 230 tonnes at last June. Further ahead, BHP has its sights on a figure of 280 tonnes, on a par with some Japanese mills.

Inflation is forecast to fall from about 11 per cent to 7.5 per cent on the consumer price index (cpi), largely through the lagged effects of wage pause in the first-half of 1983. The cpi forecast is misleading because the budget shifts some health costs from the private sector to the government, and the inflation outlook using the broader-based deflator is a less rosy 11 per cent. One reason for the high rate, well above that of Australia's trading partners, is the rise in food prices in the wake of the drought. Another is the rash of state and semi-government price rises for services. The March devaluation is also contributing.

An area of relative policy success has been the exchange rate and balance of payments. Mr Hawke moved decisively by devaluing 10 per cent days after gaining office, partially correcting it for high wages growth (see tables).

The effect of the recession in curbing imports has lowered the current account (trade and invisibles) deficit, while capital inflow has remained strong because of the follow-on effects of the 1981 resources boom, high local interest rates and the perception of the outside world that Australia is not Mexico, Brazil or Argentina.

For the 1983-84, the Treasury forecast is for a further fall in imports and in the current account deficit, a greater fall in capital inflow, and a modest fall in international reserves, which are now high.

The main risk is that the healthy level of capital inflow will evaporate or reverse as a result of such factors as uncontrolled wage growth or government refusal to set interest rates high enough to control monetary growth.

Tony Thomas



Navigator

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LABOUR COSTS

Rate of growth of average hourly wages (per cent)

| Year to | Australia | OECD |
|----------------|-----------|------|
| December 1982 | 17.8 | 5.8 |
| June 1983 | 10.9 | 5.5 |
| December 1983* | 8.5 | 6.0 |
| June 1984* | 8.4 | 6.6 |

* estimated

Source: Victorian Chamber of Manufactures

OVERSEAS LABOUR COSTS

COMPARED WITH AUSTRALIAN (adjusted for exchange rate changes)

| Base 1979-80: 1000 | |
|--------------------|-----|
| First half of 1980 | 992 |
| 1981 | 921 |
| 1982 | 876 |
| 1983 | 828 |
| 1984* | 801 |

* estimated

Source: Victorian Chamber of Manufactures

AGRICULTURE

Mud's money on the farm

There is a saying on Australian farms that "mud's money". The great drought of 1981-83 ensured little of either. The drought, in conjunction with depressed world prices and high cost inflation, lopped real incomes from farming by 53 per cent in 1982-83, the biggest fall by far in 30 years.

The good rains in the past few months (too good along the Queensland border, which was flooded) make a record wheat harvest likely in 1983-84. For farming as a whole, incomes are forecast by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to rise by 110 per cent to \$A4,400m (£2,619m), with rural exports to rise by 10 per cent to about \$A3,000m.

In more detail, crop production should rise by 48 per cent, with prices up 6 per cent, while a 4 per cent drop in livestock products will be easily offset by a rise of 20 per cent in prices. The output figures are all conservative owing to the recent upgrading of forecasts of the wheat harvest, which should top 15 million tonnes, about double last year's.

On top of this, for the first time in the 1980s, the rural "terms of trade" are moving in farmers' favour, with prices forecast to increase by 15 per cent against a rise of only 8 per cent in farm costs.

The bureau expects wool auction prices to rise by 14 per cent in 1983-84, provided recovery in the United States continues.

As a result of the drought's after-effects beef supplies to market are diminishing as farmers rebuild their herds. Prices are consequently up, by 39 per cent, but value of meat production and export are expected to decline.

Sugar prices have been at rock-bottom on world markets, but recent growing conditions in the northern hemisphere have been poor and since mid-year, sugar prices have turned up. The bureau forecasts that sugar exports should rise by 5 per cent to \$A615m despite a 16 per cent drop in the value of exports. However, the growing conditions in Queensland have been dry and the harvest volume will decline.



Stock deaths last year have led to a rise in meat prices. High imports are South America and Africa, neither with capacity to pay for them. Australia had done well in meeting the high Middle East demand for grain. Even now, it is the worst of circumstances; it is still selling a million tonnes a year to both Iraq and Iran.

EEC wheat export tonnages, which stood at 5 to 7 million tonnes a year in the 1970s and reached 10 million tonnes in 1979-80, have tumbled to an estimated 14 million tonnes in 1982-83, giving Australian growers something to think about. Australian producers' hostility towards the European Community is at first glance surprising, since there is little direct competition for sales. But

Australia now wheat power

WORLD WHEAT PRODUCTION & TRADE

(million tonnes)

| | 10-year average 1972/73 to 1981/82 | | 1982/83 estimate | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | Prod. | Trade | Prod. | Trade |
| Argentina | 7.7 | 3.4 | 14.5 | 8.0 |
| Australia | 12.5 | 9.1 | 8.7 | 8.0 |
| Canada | 18.7 | 14.2 | 27.6 | 20.0 |
| EEC | 44.3 | 8.0 | 58.5 | 14.0 |
| USA | 55.7 | 34.1 | 78.4 | 41.5 |
| Total major exporters | 138.9 | 68.8 | 188.7 | 93.5 |
| World total | 408.8 | 74.8 | 478.3 | 98.7 |

Source: International Wheat Council

hour sales to Sri Lanka, forcing other suppliers into markets served by the Australians.

As far as sugar is concerned, Australian growers are fed up with what they see as the undermining by the EEC of the International Sugar Agreement (ISA), of which the European Community is not a member. Australia, a low-cost producer with a lot of reserve capacity, has been limiting its exports only to see the EEC take advantage of this forbearance with big rises in its uneconomic beet sugar industry.

T T

Source: International Wheat Council

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MINING

Digging deeper for new markets

Even a limited inspection of Australia's vast mineral and mining industries can be a daunting task which takes you across the continent, sometimes through inhospitable and barely accessible regions.

However, the heady days of far-flung and enthusiastic development are over for the time being and "quarry" Australia, with its resources exposed to domestic and world pressures, is having to face up to tough times. A visitor to iron and coal mines these days finds much belt-tightening and fretting about cutbacks.

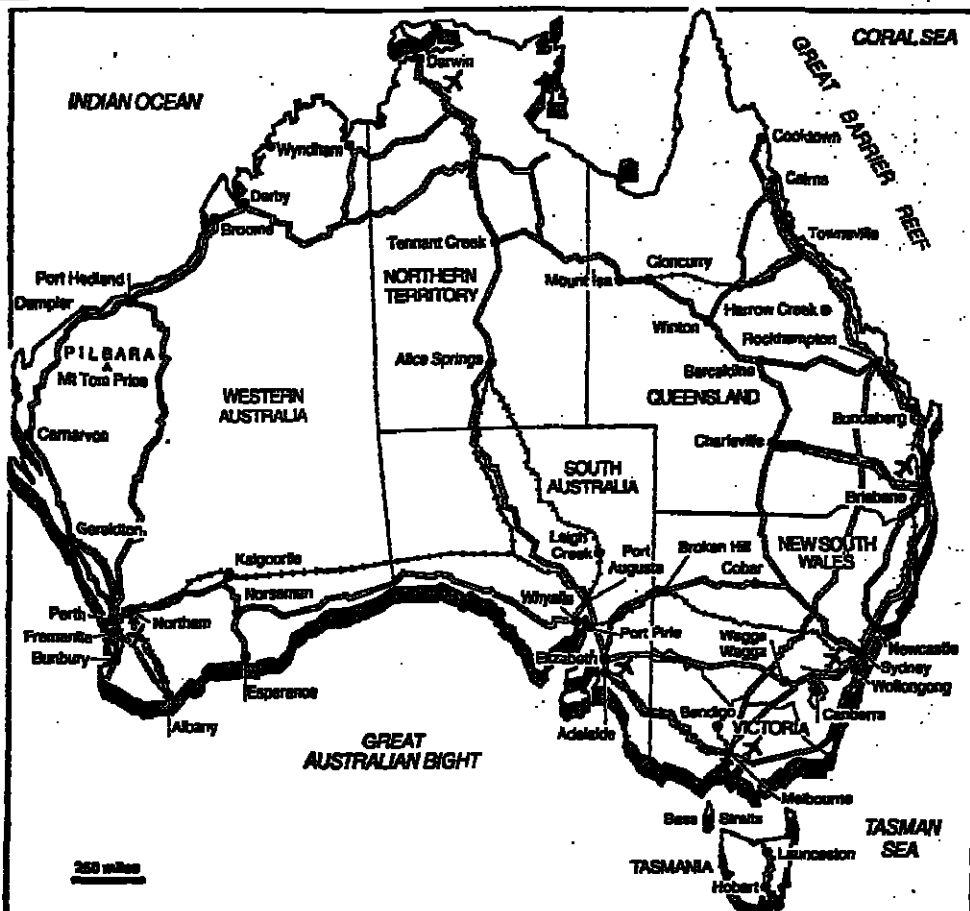
"This is one of the most difficult times in our history," says Mr John Wruck, a senior executive of Utah Development Company, the biggest coal producer in Australia, which is about to be taken over by Australia's largest industrial company, Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP).

The immediate problems are largely the result of a prolonged worldwide recession. The iron ore and coal businesses have been especially hard-hit. Other metals - Australia produces aluminium, bauxite, antimony, asbestos, chrysotile, bismuth, copper, gold, lead, manganese, mineral sands, natural gas, nickel, phosphate, silver, tin, tungsten, uranium and zinc - have suffered in varying degrees.

Australia, however, faces a longer-term challenge, so far tackled only half-heartedly. Since none of its resources monopolize the world market, the country must open up new markets and maintain its international cost competitiveness in old ones, at a time when whatever advantages it once possessed are being whittled away by newcomers.

Australian miners are hampered by high inflation (still double-digit), a flexible labour force organized along Byzantine lines which at the same time tends to promote industrial unrest, and governments - state and federal - which have strongly supported development, but which at the same time tend to consider underground resources as a cornucopia created for tax purposes only.

The problems include high levels of direct taxation, and indirect levies such as high rail



costs on state-operated, though sometimes privately financed, rail links. The current federal government would like to rationalize the taxation of resources, and has proposed a resource rent tax in vague terms, which could be based on, say, a minimum rate of return on investments.

The intention in theory would be to replace other, somewhat arbitrary, tax schemes which now exist. State governments, however, are reluctant to turn more control of taxes over to the federal government. And businessmen fear that any new tax plan, despite good intentions, will result ultimately in more and not less taxes.

Australian businessmen can no longer be complacent about their ability to market what they can mine. Gone are the days when billion-dollar development efforts could be supported on the basis of long-term contracts with Japan. Japan's steel and power industries are pressing hard to cut back and save on contracts. Australian businessmen are having to sharpen their negotiating skills. They are also scrambling to diversify into new markets, none of which looks quite as fat and profitable as in the past.

New and old customers are becoming more fickle about quality control and consistency of supplies. Miners must know more these days about technology than simply how to dig the raw material out of the ground.

From the coastal town of Karatha, built to support mine development in Western Australia's arid northwest, a twin-engine Beechcraft takes about 40 minutes to cross a seemingly endless reddish-brown expanse of desolate wilderness, dotted with scrawny brush and heat-baked gum trees, to arrive in iron ore country.

The destination, Hamersley Iron's Mount Tom Price, the richest deposit of ore in the Pilbara, looms below like a massive rust-coloured sandcastle. Its man-made contours testify to tens of millions of tons of ore which have already been carted by train nearly 250 miles to a seaport, and then to blast furnaces, mainly in Japan.

Hamersley is operating at 36 million tons a year, against a peak of 39 million tons in 1980, and its sales are running at only 31 million tons. Paradoxically, recent industrial disputes stoppages have posed the problem of maintaining enough stocks, more than 60 per cent of which go to Japan, to load onto incoming ore carriers at the port of Dampier.

More than 1,800 miles to the east, in the sprawling Bowen basin of Queensland, one of the largest coal discoveries in the world is being systematically dug from the earth. However, production at Utah Development's Harrow Creek is being deliberately restrained because of low demand for coking coal in Japan.

Production of the easily accessible coal, nearest the surface, is also down. Utah's production is running 6.5 million tons below its 22 million tons of annual capacity. Though sales are inching up, reducing stocks somewhat, mines are faced with the prospect of 20 million tons of new annual capacity of coal coming on stream in Canada and elsewhere around the world by next year, further tipping the scales against producers.

About half a dozen new mines are in Australia itself, where a surge in demand from Japan since the 1970s encouraged a massive amount of investment for both coking coal, used to make steel, and steaming coal as an energy alternative to oil.

The poor market situation was certainly borne out in price negotiations with Japan this year, when contract prices were about 20 per cent below last year. Negotiations on longer-term contracts now coming into force are due shortly, and Japan is putting on pressure for price reductions on these as well.

Australian miners are not pessimistic about their long-term prospects. Fortunately, the country has virtually unlimited supplies of high-quality minerals. The key, however, lies in Australia's ability to bring under control the excesses and bad habits of the past.

Richard Hanson

RACING

No horsing around Down Under

When Robert Sangster, the British millionaire racehorse owner, first arrived in Australia about 10 years ago, he thought it rather quaint that the country's biggest race was a two-mile handicap.

Mr Sangster, by his own admission, had a bit to learn about Australians and their racing and it took him until 1980, when he won the Melbourne Cup, to fully understand. He described the discovery, that day at Flemington racetrack, as "the thrill of my life".

"This is better than Epsom of Paris," he said. "This is a win of the heart. That's what the Melbourne Cup is all about - tradition and feeling."

The Cup is indeed the heartbeat of Australian racing, even though it is common for horses with the limited ability of Mr Sangster's Beldale Ball to win. The Derby and other three-year-old classics are of course important, but not in the way that they are in almost every other country in the world. Comparisons between Australia and elsewhere are virtually useless because racing, and the way it is approached, is so different.

Consider the following:

● Weight-for-age (wfa) racing may be the most glamorous section of the sport, but it still does not have the general appeal of a major handicap. More than once in recent years Australia's best horses, with a string of wfa victories behind them, have not been able to win full public acclaim until providing themselves in major handicaps.

● Most of the big race winners, including two champions of the last decade, Manikato and Kingston Town, are geldings. It seems that a colt only has to win a couple of two-year-old races, and he is syndicated and sent to stud without proving himself over a distance.

● Because of the emphasis on speed at stud, if a horse does happen to win major staying races he is often snubbed by breeders.

Australians love their horses. With more than 50 racetracks in the state of Victoria alone and hundreds throughout the country there is little chance of escape from horse talk, either in the city or in the remotest outback area.

It is in the tiny bush towns that the character of racing is often at its strongest. Walk into any pub and it is odds on that on the wall will be a photo of a horse winning a race, sometimes even a wall covered in



Neck and neck at Newcastle race course, NSW

photos. If the public doesn't own the horse himself, perhaps it belongs to the cousin of the wife of the publican's best friend.

Off-course Totalisator Agency Boards (TABs) are situated in every large suburb and town, providing an ever increasing range of services. What started as sombre, tiny buildings requiring bets to be placed at least half an hour before a race and payouts held over to the next day, have become colourful places with betting up to the start of race, immediate payouts, televisions and display of approximate dividends.

There is also saturation coverage by the media. Daily newspapers provide fields and riders for every meeting on which the TAB operates and produce a full form guide for the main meeting. The Melbourne evening paper, *The Herald*, publishes a 12-page guide to all Saturday meetings on Friday nights and the morning papers produce four-page editions. All that is on top of the myriad strictly racing publications.

More and more meetings are now being televised live but, more importantly, every single race on which the TAB operates is broadcast live on radio. Saturday morning radio, in mind-boggling, one station starts at 8 am with a half-hour preview recorded the day before. At 8.30 am the preview, live, commences with up-to-date information on runners, a track report and reports of weekly gallops. This lasts half an hour, and then it is time for the official scratchings and bookmakers' markets.

At 9.30 am the scratchings are checked again and another preview given. At 10 am it is time for the scratchings again and then a talk-back show, with callers asking racing questions to a panel of experts. Then the scratchings and markets are checked. The talk-back show then resumes until about midday, when the scratchings are checked once again. After that comes another preview with the same previewer offering the same tips.

Once racing starts, up to 40 races an afternoon are broadcast with TAB approximate odds given every ten minutes or so. At the end of the day there is a review and soon after comes a preview for the harness racing and greyhound meetings that night.

Australian racing, in many ways, is a game for young men and for people who have never had much luck. The foresight of Mr Sangster enabled him to penetrate the industry so quickly, that in only a few years he became the biggest owner in the country. But there are literally thousands of small owners.

The best example again comes from Mr Sangster. On one of his early visits he strolled into a Melbourne hotel and was asked by the porters how they should go about leasing a horse. Owners in Australia are spread throughout the community. Even porters can race horses.

In Australia, leasing is common and small syndicates have become the rage. In some instances, with the right provincial trainer, you can pay little more than \$A20 a week for a sixth share in a horse capable of winning in the metropolitan area. Stakes are good.

Said Mr Sangster: "You can buy a yearling for \$A30,000 to \$A40,000 (£17,850 to £23,800) with a very good chance of earning that money on the racetrack. One in a hundred could do that in Europe."

There are even better examples. Manikato, the outstanding Australian sprinter of the last ten years and winner of more than \$A1 million in stake money, cost \$A3,500 as a yearling. Kingston Town, winner of close to \$A2 million and Australian record holder, was offered for sale as a yearling and could not reach his reserve of \$A5,000.

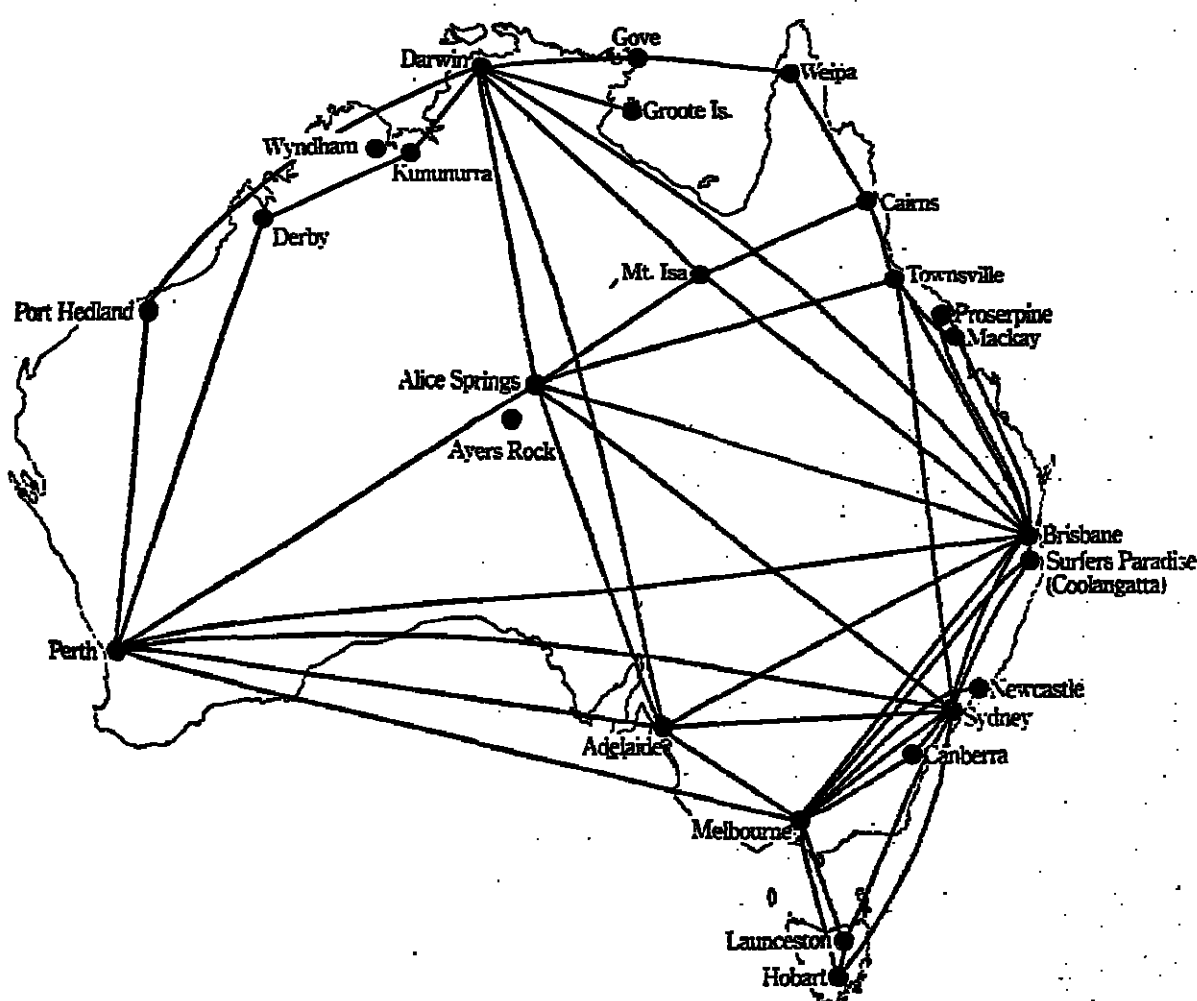
Three years ago Mr Sangster found out first-hand about the opportunities for even the cheapest horses. He owned the favourite for Victoria's premier sprint, the Newmarket, but his runner, Sportsman, could finish only second to one of the rank outsiders, Dor Kon.

Dor Kon's sire had earlier been banished to the outback to sire stock horses. Dor Kon was to have been sent to Hongkong to race, yet a battling trainer, who rarely had city runners let alone winners, liked the look of the unfashionable gelding and paid the princely sum of \$A250 for him.

It is results like that which lead many to the conclusion that Australian racing provides value for money. Australians may do things in strange ways compared to Europe, but they do them well.

Mark Harding

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 698.2 up 2.9
FT 100 Index 61.66 up 0.22
FT All Share 439.42 down 1.53
Bargains 19,819
New York Dow Jones
Average 1272.66 down 11.99
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9,483.09 down 69.39
Hongkong Hang Seng
Index 735.36 down 16.60
Amsterdam 152.8 up 1.4
Sydney AO Index 704.7 down 2.8
Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index 969.30 down 1.10
Brussels General Index
128.79 up 0.06
Paris CAC Index 141.3 up 0.4
Zurich SCA General 289.3 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON
Sterling \$1.5065 down 40pts
Index 83.7 down 0.2
DM 3.90 down 0.125
Fr 11.9150 down 0.0550
Yen 350 down 2.0
Dollar
Index 125.7 up 0.1
DM 2.5875
NEW YORK
Sterling \$1.5070
Dollar DM 2.5885
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 0.57547
SDR 0.710333

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 1/8-9 1/16
Euro currency rates
3 month dollar 9 1/8-9 1/16
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/8
3 month Fr 15 1/4-15
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 102 1/8-102 1/4
ECB Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme (V)
Average reference rate for
interest period September 7, to
October 4, 1983 inclusive:
9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce)
am \$400.50 pm \$399
close \$398.25-399 (\$264-264.50)
New York latest \$399
Krugman (per coin):
\$411-413 (\$272.50-273.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$84-95 (\$262-263)
*Excludes VAT

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Waring & Gifford (Holdings),
Hallam Tower Hotel, Sheffield
(noon).
McKay Securities, 18 Park-
side, Knightsbridge (noon).
Star Computer, 84 Great
Eastern Street EC2 (10am).
Spear (J. W.) & Sons, Richard
House, Green Street, Enfield
(noon).

TODAY

Interim: Ash & Lacy, R
Cartwright Holdings, Cass
Group, First Castle Electronics,
Fogarty, Greenbank Industrial
Holdings, Helene of London,
London Sumatra Plantations,
Steel Brothers Holdings, Spi-
rax-Sarco Engineering, United
Parcels, J O Walker and Co.
Finals: Amour Trust, Bejam
Group, CPM Computers, T C
Harrison, Pochin's, Scottish
Metropolitan Property.

NOTEBOOK

Ward White Group, the retail
footwear and manufacturing
group, yesterday announced
details of a £10.7m rights issue.
The company also announced a
40 per cent increase in pretax
profits to £2.1m in the six
months to June 30. Page 22

Pretax profits at Waterford
Glass, the Irish glass and
chinaware company, rose by 15
per cent to IR£3.8m in the
six months to June 30. The
company was helped by im-
proved sales in the United
States. Page 22

● FMC, Britain's largest
slaughterhouse group which is
still considering a management
buy-out offer, has sold its
Northern Ireland meat plant at
Newry to the Anglo Irish Meat
Company for £430,000 cash.
Stocks are raising another
£230,000 in cash.
In a full year this is expected
to contribute about £68,000 to
FMC's pretax profits compared
to a pretax and interest loss
of £547,000 in the last full year.

State spending and borrowing still racing ahead

Money growth on target as M3 falls for first time in four years

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The Government's main measure of money supply, sterling M3, fell last month for the first time in more than four years to bring monetary growth back on target.

But Government spending and borrowing are still running well over planned levels. The emergency measures announced by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, in July to cut borrowing by £1,000m this year have yet to bite.

The Bank of England said yesterday that sterling M3 fell by a provisional 0.5 per cent in the five weeks to mid-September. This was the first drop since March 1979. Since February, sterling M3 has risen at an annual rate of 9.75 per cent, well within the 7 to 11 per cent target band, and sharply down from last month's annualized rate of 12.4 per cent.

After rapidly accelerating monetary growth in the spring, the last three months have seen almost no increase in sterling M3, as government borrowing has slowed and the authorities have stepped up sales of gilts to mop up excess cash.

Growth of the other money measures has also slackened.

| MONEY GROWTH | | |
|--------------|---------|-------------|
| | Sept 83 | Feb-Sept 83 |
| M1 | -1% | 11% |
| M2 | -1% | 9% |
| M3 | -0.5% | 12 |

Source: Bank of England

although they remain above target.

The authorities have made it clear that last week's 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates, which

came after the Bank had received early intimation that the money supply figures would be good, would be the last for some while.

They are anxious to keep monetary growth within the target range over the coming months, at a time when borrowing from the banks is likely to remain buoyant and the Government must sell a lot of gilts just to replace maturing debt.

According to the London clearing banks, however, lending was modest last month, with almost all of it accounted for by

| CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BORROWING REQUIREMENT | | |
|--|----------|------------|
| | Monthly | Cumulative |
| | total £m | total £m |
| 1982-83 | 2,813 | 12,813 |
| March | 1,192 | 1,192 |
| April | 1,717 | 2,909 |
| May | 2,547 | 5,456 |
| June | 932 | 6,388 |
| July | 1,299 | 7,687 |
| Aug | 1,155 | 8,842 |
| Sept | | |

Source: Treasury

CBI chief still pessimistic on recovery

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday warned the Government on the first day of the Conservative Party conference that the recession showed no signs of ending.

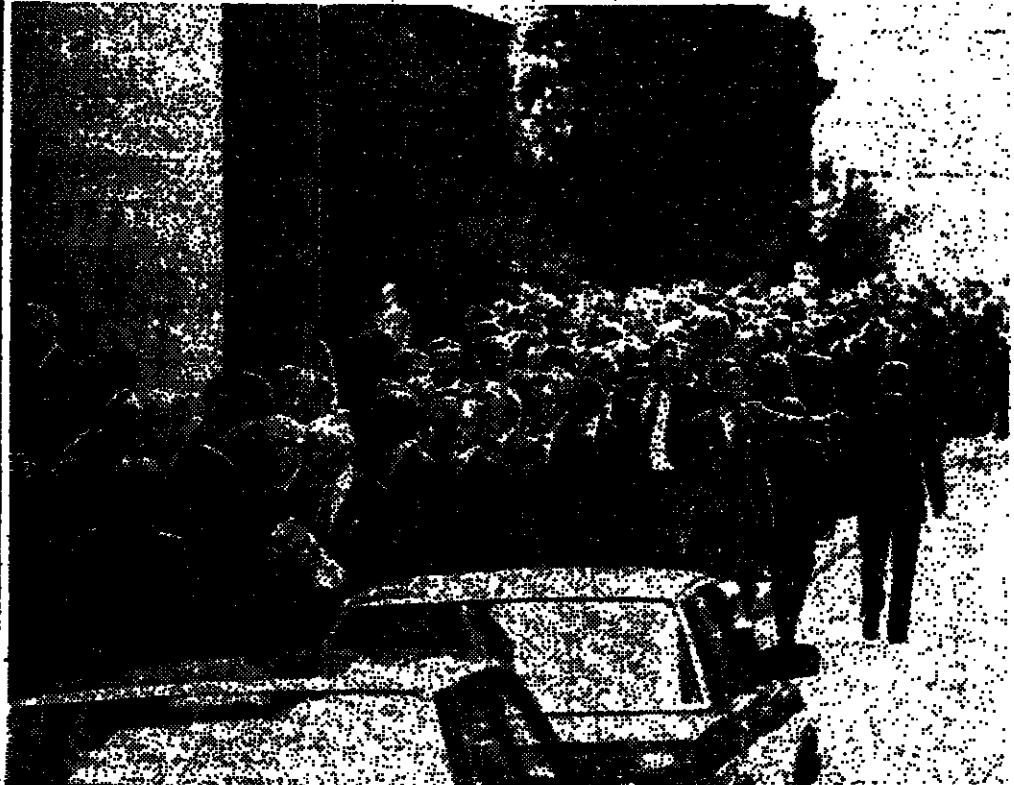
Rising ministerial criticism once again.

Sir Terence said that overall growth "is going to be very slow".

He said after meeting CBI leaders at Gateshead, Tyne and Wear that industrial recovery in the North-east was at a standstill and prospects were flat. Considerable differences were to be found throughout the country but for every two or three companies showing an increase in business, a further two or three were showing a decrease.

The only bright spots in an otherwise bleak outlook for the North-east were the chemical, car components and building materials sectors. But despite the problems, he said, there was no case for increased regional aid.

Any rise in regional support should go to the West Midlands which was suffering more than elsewhere from recession.



Head count: long and winding queue as brokers flocked to cast their votes in the City yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

Brokers applaud 'open door' deal

By Wayne Lissitt

Stockbrokers yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favour of the deal worked out by the Stock Exchange Council, and the Government to avoid an appearance before the Restrictive Practices Court by the Exchange.

At a packed City meeting yesterday, the largest in the history of the Stock Exchange, 869 members voted in favour, while 63 voted against.

Many of the members - about 1,500 attended - could not get into the 600-seat Charterd Insurance Institute hall and were left outside.

A poll vote of the entire 4,000 membership was demanded but withdrawn when insufficient

signatories supported the motion. The members were voting on the introduction of lay members to the council and appeals committee and the abolition of fixed commissions.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said that the lay members, all of whom have to be approved by the Bank of England, could become senior figures on the council including chairman.

He said that the next step was for the Government to introduce legislation to remove the Exchange from the Restrictive Practices Court.

Sir Nicholas said the result enabled the council to "go

forward doing everything we can to ensure we continue to run a competitive and well regulated central market."

He said the Stock Exchange had been in "an intolerable position" with the restrictive practices case.

The solution was not a question of a good choice or a bad choice, but "an exercise in risk analysis which is something brokers and jobbers are well qualified to undertake", he said.

Of those members voting against, particularly representatives of the smaller companies, some felt that although Sir Nicholas had "won a battle the war would continue", as one said after the meeting.

Hongkong plans to rescue Grand Marine

By Our Financial Staff

A rescue bid was launched yesterday for Grand Marine Holdings, a shipping subsidiary of the stricken Carrian Holdings, the financial and property group.

Grand Marine reached agreement in principle with its 12 creditor banks to reschedule its debts, according to reports from Hongkong.

The scheme, master-minded by Wardley, the Hongkong bankers, will cover an initial period of a half year period from the end of last month said Grand Marine's chief executive Mr Nicholas Asimakopulos.

The Wardley plan apparently includes the suspension of interest payments on debts of about \$120m (£79m) and is designed to help Grand Marine to trade out of its problems.

NCB offshoot leads Israel oil search

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

A British company jointly owned by the National Coal Board and English Chinas Clay has been helping Israel in its search for offshore oil, it was confirmed yesterday.

The company, Horizon Exploration, has completed a geophysical survey of offshore waters in the eastern Mediterranean for the Israel National Oil Corporation. It is the first step towards the opening up of Israel's offshore area to exploration drilling by international companies.

Although it has been reported before that a British company was involved in seismic work for the Israelis, its identity has remained a mystery. Horizon Explorations was anxious to play down publicity, surround-

ing the disclosure yesterday, on the grounds that it could damage its business prospects elsewhere in the world.

The company which is owned equally by the two partners, was established about 10 years ago by English Chinas Clays. The National Coal Board took its share in the business in 1979.

Both the Department of Energy and the coal board said yesterday that the company operated as an independent concern.

While the coal board has been exporting coal to Israel since 1981, the Government has repeatedly refused to sanction the export of North Sea Oil to Israel - a policy reiterated last week by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary for Energy.

Stocks hit by oil crisis fear

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

Wall Street stocks, depressed by the prospect of a Middle East oil crisis, were broadly lower in heavy early trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down about 7 points after falling 8.33 in the morning.

However, among the second tier of issues prices weakened with declining issues ahead of advances two to one.

Although many oil analysts discount serious effects of Iran's

threat to block oil shipments in the Persian Gulf, spot crude prices have risen sharply and that has given the stock market the jitters.

Leading oils were down, with Exxon at 38down 1/4, Phillips at 35 1/2 down 1/4, Texaco at 36 1/2 down 1/4, Atlantic Richfield at 47 1/2 down 1/4, and Standard of California at 36 1/2 down 1/4.

International Paper at 55 1/2 was up 1/4, Modular Computer Systems at 9 1/2 was down 1/4, Warner Communications at 22 was down 1/4, Boeing at 42 1/2 was down 1/4, Northrop at 82 was up 1/4, Comdisco at 23 was down 1/4, Hospital Corporation of America at 47 1/2 was up 1/4, American Medical International at 31 1/2 was down 1/4, and Levi Strauss at 47 1/2 was down 1/4.

IBM at 133 1/2 was down 1/4, General Motors at 77 was down 1/4, Merck at 102 1/2 was down 1/4, American Express at 39 1/2 was down 1/4.

WALL STREET

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WALL STREET

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All clear for laundry bid battle

By Philip Robinson

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary for Trade and Industry, yesterday ended one takeover battle for control of a laundry group and opened another.

He cleared two interrelated takeovers of any Monopolies Commission investigation. This means Pritchard Services, a contract cleaning group, may take control of Spring Grove and that Brengreen (Holdings), Pritchard's rivals in the cleaning business, may pursue its £31.5m takeover of Sunlight Services, without fear of a Government investigation.

Sunlight had itself been a rival to Pritchard in a bitter battle for control of Spring Grove. Brengreen had made clear that it would not proceed with its offer had Sunlight bought Spring Grove.

In his statement, Mr Parkinson said effectively that as Pritchard had won, there was no need to make a formal statement on the Sunlight offer.

However, had there been, the

LAUNDRY INDUSTRY TAKEOVERS

| | Predator | Target | Value | Result |
|---------|--------------|---------------|-------|-------------|
| 1982 | | | | |
| June | Spring Grove | St George's | £7.6m | completed |
| July | Sunlight | Johnson Group | £30m | MMC blocked |
| Initial | | Johnson Group | | MMC blocked |
| 1983 | | | | |
| August | Pritchard | Spring Grove | £15m | completed |
| | Sunlight | Spring Grove | £21m | completed |
| | Brengreen | Sunlight | £31m | undecided |

merger would have been referred for investigation. Indications that this would be the case filtered through from the Office of Fair Trading to Sunlight early last month. And last year the Monopolies Commission blocked rival takeovers of Johnson Group Cleaners by Sunlight and Initial and made it clear that takeovers of the top six laundry businesses by one of them would likely attract a further investigation.

Both Sunlight and Spring Grove are among the top half dozen laundry companies.

Sunlight's price rose 25p on the stock market last night to

240p. Brengreen's rose 8 1/2p to 100p. At that price Brengreen's five for two share swap values Sunlight at 250p.

On its first closing date a fortnight ago, Brengreen's offer had attracted acceptances of just 3.7 per cent of Sunlight's equity.

Mr David Evans, Brengreen chairman, said yesterday: "That was before everything was much clearer. Our offer was conditional on Sunlight not winning Spring Grove."

"I think we will now succeed with our bid for Sunlight. We have time to increase the offer under the rules, and we will if we feel it is necessary."

STEETLEY

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, MINERALS AND REFRACTORIES

Interim report for six months ended 30th June 1983

Pretax profits increased by 60%

Earnings per share up 80%

| | Half-year to 30th June 1983 | Half-year to 30th June 1982 | Year to 31st December 1982 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Turnover | 196,782 | 226,670 | 420,169 |
| Surplus before taxation | 8,662 | 5,441 | 9,351 |
| Net earnings per ordinary share | 7.72p | 4.26p | 7.41p |

The profit before taxation for the first half of 1983 was 60 per cent. higher than for the same period last year. Earnings per share increased by 80 per cent. and exceeded those for the whole of last year. A reduction in interest paid of £1.5 million resulted from the combined effects of lower interest rates and much reduced borrowings.

All major activities in the United Kingdom have improved their profits. Whilst the market in building bricks showed a marked upturn, the profit improvement in other construction materials and refractories owes more to increased efficiency than to greater volume.

Investment in our core activities continues. A new brick plant at Bishop Auckland was brought on stream during the period. Construction of a new clay tile plant has started in order to meet increasing demand.

The Australian operations are now confined to mineral extraction and processing which have latterly shown some improvement. The North American mineral operations also improved their performance as the period progressed.

The increased final dividend which will be recommended to shareholders will be quantified when the results for the full year can be considered. These results demonstrate that the effect of the actions taken to improve profitability are now beginning to show through. When this is coupled with the improved trading conditions which in recent months have become evident in some areas, then we are justifiably confident about the outlook for the remaining part of this year, as well as for 1984.

David Donne, Chairman



Steetley plc, P.O. Box 6, Geteford Hill, Workshop, Notts. S81 8AF

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Float-off at Debenhams

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Oct 3. Dealings end, Oct 14. Contingency Day, Oct 17. Settlement Day, Oct 24.

Debenhams, the departmental store chain famous for its Harvey Nichols, Lotus shoes and Wellbeck Finance, took the City by surprise yesterday by announcing plans to float off various parts of the group on the stock market.

Mr Robert Thornton, chairman of Debenhams, made his views known at a meeting of the Society of Investment Analysts. The shares greeted the news with a jump of 5p to 140p, after hitting 142p.

According to analysts attending the meeting, the rationale behind the move is to realize the group's valuable assets, more accurately, while spreading the risk against an unwanted bid approach. Since the successful bid for UDS Group by Hanson Trust, Debenhams has been strongly tipped as the next big store group to come under the hammer.

Last year Mr Thornton took the step of splitting the group up into 18 separate divisions controlled by a holding company. These included a property company, Wellbeck Finance and the catering interests. Even if Debenhams sold off small parts

of each it could prove a big money spinner.

Mr Thornton was unavailable for comment last night but is known to have visited the City several times recently and

Shares of Unigate rose 6p to 107p after news of a lunch between the company and brokers Scrimgeour Kemp Gee yesterday. Scrimgeour was unavailable for comment, but meeting seems to have confirmed the market's optimistic stance on the company. For the full year to March 31, pretax profits are expected to grow from £43.7m to £51m followed by £55m in 1985.

had lunch with brokers W. Greenwell on Monday. At last night's close the group was valued at £187.6m.

The rest of the equity market was unmoved by the record breaking performance overnight on Wall Street. Investors re-

mained firmly entrenched on the sidelines still unwilling to commit themselves.

Chips closed up to 50p lower, despite the better than expected banking figures. These showed a fall of 3 per cent in M3 reducing the growth rate to 9.6 per cent - well inside the Government's present target. But M1 has risen 25 per cent and is now up around 12 per cent.

As a result most of attention in gilts was focused on the index-linked stocks which closed up to 50p, higher amid selective support.

On the foreign exchange the pound slipped 0.1 cents to \$1.5090. Blue chips again featured ICI with a 4p rise to a new high of 76p, after 580p. The company's excitement over its breakthrough in the fibre field with its new product Tectel has again attracted renewed US support.

At the last count US inves-

tors held about 7 per cent of a share. But so far analysts are sticking to their original forecast of pretax profits of £400m for the year.

The Americans are also taking a healthy interest in Mr Roy Cole and the rest of his fellow directors at Telemetric will be more than pleased with this week's reception given to the shares of this high-tech group.

Yesterday the price improved 3p to 226p compared with the offer price of 185p and might reveal a further turn of speed later today when the group unveils its new advanced graphic display unit.

Dunlop, unchanged at 53p. Morgan Guaranty says it has increased its holding from 25.09 million shares to 26.43 million, or 18.38 per cent of the total. These shares are all owned by various US investors who have been issued with American Depositary Receipts.

Shares of Dunlop fell from grace last month after the group announced plans to sell its European tyre division for £112m to reduce borrowing. Glaxo dipped another 5p to 740p after disappointing figures on Monday. The shares have lost 55p in two days.

Shares of London Brick slipped 2p to 96p as hopes of a bid from Hanson Trust continued to fade. Last week Tarmac sold its remaining holding of 3 million shares in London Brick (2 1/2 per cent of the total) to an unnamed buyer.

Former stockbroker, Mr Jeremy Peace, has paid 52p a share for 690,000 shares in Morland Securities, the brewer and wine and spirit merchant, quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market. Mr Peace bought his shares from Mr Robert Moore, director of Morland, and now owns 53.6 per cent of the company. Under Stock Exchange rules he must now make a similar offer for the rest.

News of the deal sent the shares shooting up almost double to 80p. Any acceptance to the offer will be placed through the market to help maintain the group's quote.

RECENT ISSUES

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| A & M (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| Amalgamated (20p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| Atlantic (20p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| BP (20p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

DOLLAR STOCKS

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

A - B

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

High Low Company

| Company | Price | Yield |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
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| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Water (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

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|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
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| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

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| Company | Price | Yield |
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| British Airways (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
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| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
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| British Wool (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |

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| British Telecom (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
| British Virgin Islands (10p Ord) | 100 | 10.0 |
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Robson take a gamble on a European championship night

Chips down in a high stakes game

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent Budapest

England will return to an old Hungarian fort this evening to play for familiar high stakes. Two years ago in the Nep Stadium they gambled with their own respectability as well as their ambitions of reaching the World Cup finals, and it paid off. Now only the eventual prize, a place among the last eight in the European championships, has shifted.

Bobby Robson, whose representatives are holding on to the last chip of hope in-group three, admits that "the situation is almost identical". In 1981, Switzerland had embarrassed England the week before they came here and the recent defeat by Denmark has left the current side with the same "need to restore credibility", a matter seen almost as important as the outcome itself.

Robson, in being "prepared to lose a game to win it", has taken a chance. Hoddle, whose gifts are doubted by none, but whose application is doubted by all. To reduce the risk, Robson has built around him a solid wall of protection and selected three midfield "biters", in Bryan Robson, Lee and Mabbutt.

Hoddle has, therefore, been given a glorious opportunity to display his talents on the one hand, and a heavy burden of responsibility on the other. Unfortunately, his past record in international appearances in the past, but a spacious stage has now been prepared for his benefit, and he must accept the challenge. On his reaction England's fate may depend.

The other doubt in Robson's mind concerns the availability of Sansom, who is only 90 per cent fit. After



Front runners: Blissett (left) and Mariner lead England's attack

suffering a slight recurrence of his back problem, his movement is restricted, but he hopes to play. A star left in the morning will prove whether he or Kennedy starts as left back.

Once Robson had decided to strengthen the midfield, the rest of his formation was predictable. Gregory, although he must be considered the fifth choice, is the most experienced right back in the party and Martin and Butcher as a combination at the centre of England's defence have yet to finish on the losing side.

The record of the partnership between Blissett and Mariner is not so encouraging. They have been paired once, before, in the 2-1 victory over

Wales in February, but have between them scored only three goals in nine full appearances, and four substitutes and Blissett claimed all three of those one night against Luxembourg 10 months ago.

The attacking strategy will be for both of them to take their respective markers deep and wide, leaving a hole behind them in the middle. Mariner, with Keegan as his companion, succeeded in the play two years ago, and Brooking who scored twice in the 2-1 win, was among those to exploit the gaps in the Hungarian defence.

The ammunition this time will be supplied by Hoddle. As though pitching on to a green with a lofted club, he will

attempt to launch those familiar, graceful passes into open territory. It is up to the likes of Lee, coming in from the right, Mabbutt, from the left, and Bryan Robson, in the centre, to act as the detonators.

"It is crucial to concentrate on our own game," Robson said, "and we must get the best out of our players and our style. If we do all of that right, then they will have to worry about us." His opinion was scarcely the same three weeks ago, when he was praising the Danes before they arrived.

Nevertheless, he was eager to see the Hungarian side when it was announced to hear the views of a local reporter. "The goalkeepers, for instance, have been picked only once before and that it was some six years ago."

HUNGARY: A Kovacs, G Csokonai, J Kardos, J Varga, I Garaba, P Harnich, F Csongrady, G Butcsa, L Dajka, T Nyilast, G Hajlan.

ENGLAND: P Shilton (Southampton), J Gregory (Cusack's Park Rangers), T Butcher (Ipswich Town), A Martin (West Ham), J Mariner (Aston Villa), A Kennedy (L'pool), S Lee (Liverpool), G Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur), B Robson (Manchester United), G Mabbutt (Tottenham Hotspur), G Martin (Ipswich Town), L Blissett (AC Milan).

Group three

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Denmark | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 9 |
| England | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 8 |
| Greece | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| Hungary | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 12 | 4 |
| Luxembourg | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 25 | 0 |

Fixtures: Today: Denmark v Luxembourg, Hungary v England; October 28: Hungary v Denmark; November 16: Greece v Denmark; November 23: England v Greece; November 24: Luxembourg v Hungary; December 14: Greece v Luxembourg.

A dream house built of granite

By Hugh Taylor

If those eternal optimists, the supporters of Scotland, are to have their wish fulfilled, the dream of a Scottish team to reach the final of the European Championship will be a reality. It is not the glamour of the South Americans or the colourful patterns of the European teams that appeals to the Scottish manager, the most pragmatic of tacticians, "I would rather," he said, "that we could play like the Belgians."

To most people the play of Scotland's opponents at Hampden in the European Championship match may appear to be drab, a minor-league fight in keeping with the Low Countries' temperament. But not so, who would have thought that the team would be the outstanding team in Europe and wants Scotland to take a few lessons from them.

They have, he insists, something he would dearly love and he sums up Belgium's success formula in two words: consistency and continuity. How right he is, for Stein adds that Belgium's practice was delayed a further 10 minutes when René Arnoux spun his Ferrari with no serious damage.

Warwick had to use the team's spare car for yesterday's unofficial practice in which he was eleventh.

Patrick Tambay, of France, is the firm favourite to set the fastest time during official practice. Yesterday he improved his previous time by almost half a second to 1 minute 6.08 seconds, half a second outside the fastest time for last year's grand prix.

As clouds helped cool the temperatures in the final hour of practice times began to tumble. Tambay's teammate, Arnoux, moved up the list to second with 1:07.62 but did not manage to better Elio de Angelis's 1:07.5 on Monday.

De Angelis took third quickest time yesterday, complaining that his Lotus-Renault had lost the grip he had enjoyed the previous day.

The new Williams-Honda continued to show impressive improvement. Jacques Laffite, using qualifying tyres at the end of the session, set a new record of 1:06.18. The world champion, Keke Rosberg, in the second Williams-Honda, was tenth fastest.

Running qualifying tyres for the

Warwick survives 120 mph crash to come eleventh

Kyalami (AP) - Derek Warwick, Toleman-Hart's No. 1 driver, escaped injury when he crashed at about 120 miles an hour going into the notorious Clubhouse Corner on the second day of unofficial practice for Saturday's South African Grand Prix.

Warwick used spare car

On Monday Bruno Giacomelli, the other Toleman-Hart driver, narrowly escaped a serious accident when a rear suspension pick-up point pulled out of the chassis, leaving the team with just two cars.

Warwick said: "The brakes locked up going into the corner. I don't really know why." His car went through four layers of catch fencing before burying its nose in the tyre barriers in front of the wall.

The chassis damage looked serious but the Toleman team manager, Roger Sillman, was confident that Giacomelli's and Warwick's cars could be repaired in time for the race. "It's not going to be an easy job so far from home," Sillman said.

Makeshift repairs were being made on the specialized carbon-fibre chassis because there is no specialized carbon-fibre industry in South Africa. Warwick's accident closed the track for an hour for repairs to catch fencing and yesterday's practice was delayed a further 10 minutes when René Arnoux spun his Ferrari with no serious damage.

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Running qualifying tyres for the

first time, the championship leader, Alain Prost, improved to fifth quickest but was not happy with his car. "The car is handling well but we are about 15 kilometres slower at the end of the straight than the Ferrari and Brabham, which could make it difficult for the race," he said.

His closest rival, Nelson Piquet, did not improve on his times yesterday. His Brabham team concentrating on alternative cooling systems in case of a hot race, which would stress their own engine to its limits.

The quickest of the non-turbo runners were the two Tyrrell drivers. Danny Sullivan and Michele Alboreto, who were five seconds a lap off the quickest turbo cars, which was what they had expected at this fast, high-altitude circuit.

Carlos Reutemann arrived here yesterday, adding fuel to the rumours that he was intending to make a grand prix comeback. He denied it, saying: "I am just here for a holiday. It's nice to see a grand prix again, specially this one. I have the intention of coming back to racing."

UNOFFICIAL PRACTICE TIMES: 1. P. Tambay (Ferrari) 1:06.18; 2. A. Prost (Ferrari) 1:06.20; 3. E. de Angelis (Lotus-Renault) 1:07.50; 4. P. Arnoux (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 5. R. Arnoux (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 6. N. Piquet (Brabham) 1:07.62; 7. M. Alboreto (Tyrrell) 1:07.62; 8. D. Sullivan (Tyrrell) 1:07.62; 9. A. Prost (Ferrari) 1:07.62; 10. K. Rosberg (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 11. J. Laffite (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 12. J. Watson (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 13. C. Reutemann (Williams-Honda) 1:07.62; 14. D. Warwick (Toleman-Hart) 1:07.62; 15. B. Giacomelli (Toleman-Hart) 1:07.62.

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Lucky break for Britain drawing Italy at home

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Britain will be at home to Italy from February 24-26 in the first round of the Davis Cup competition, which is sponsored by the NEC Corporation. This will be the fifth tie between these nations in nine years. Italy won three of the others but were beaten at Brighton in 1981. They are going through a vulnerable transitional phase and are probably the weakest of the eight seeded nations. Britain could not have had a better draw.

The record entry of 62 includes two newcomers, Senegal and Singapore. The 16 teams in what is known as the "world group" consist of eight seeds and eight other nations who reached the second round, or won play-off ties to avoid relegation, or earned promotion from the four zonal qualifying competitions.

Paul Hutchins, the British team manager, said yesterday: "This is probably the best draw we could have had. Italy are by no means weak but they are one of the few countries in the draw we have a really good chance of beating. It is good, too, that we have another home tie in the next round. We deserved a bit of luck. We have been drawn away in the past two years."

Britain's second round opponents would presumably be Australia, who beat them at Adelaide last March and will

oppose Sweden in this year's final, at Melbourne from December 26 to 28. Australia will have played all four of their 1983 ties at home on grass. The management committee consider that this sort of luck even itself out and that legislation to prevent it is therefore unnecessary.

Britain's prospects are enhanced by the fact that Hutchins now seems satisfied that Colin Dowdeswell, the most highly ranked player in the country, is fully committed to Britain rather than Switzerland. Dowdeswell is British by birth and parentage and now lives where he was born, at Wimbledon.

Dowdeswell was brought up in what was then Rhodesia, played singles and doubles for Rhodesia against Switzerland in 1976, and settled in Switzerland the following year. He has a Swiss ranking and won their indoor championship in January.

He has lived in England since 1980 and has made a permanent home here. Dowdeswell reckons there is not much future for a minority group in what is now Zimbabwe and that anyone who has left has the feeling "where's my home?"

The European indoor equivalent of the Davis Cup competition is the King's Cup event, to be played in January. This will be useful preparation for the tie with Italy and Hutchins considers the King's Cup may be ideal for Dowdeswell's introduction to the British team. Like John Lloyd, Dowdeswell is just as effective in doubles as in singles, which means that Christopher Mottram (a reluctant doubles player) should now be free to give singles his undivided attention.

GRAND PRIS STANDINGS: 1. I. Lendl (USA), 2,274 pts; 2. M. Wilander (Sweden), 2,228; 3. J. McEnroe (USA), 1,800; 4. J. Hargreaves (USA), 1,622; 5. J. McIlwain (USA), 1,600; 6. J. Hargreaves (USA), 1,323; 7. J. McIlwain (USA), 1,125; 8. A. Gimenez (Spain), 888; 9. G. Vilas (Argentina), 855.

Davis Cup draw

WORLD GROUP: (a) Australia v Yugoslavia; Great Britain v (b) Italy; West Germany v (c) Argentina; Romania v (d) USSR; Czechoslovakia v Denmark; India v France; New Zealand v Paraguay; (e) Sweden v Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE A: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE B: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE C: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE D: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE E: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE F: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE G: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE H: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE I: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE J: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE K: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE L: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE M: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE N: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE O: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE P: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE Q: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE R: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE S: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE T: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE U: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE V: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE W: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE X: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE Y: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE Z: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AA: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AB: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AC: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AD: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AE: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AF: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AG: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AH: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AI: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

EUROPEAN ZONE AJ: First round (a) USSR v (b) Czechoslovakia; (c) Argentina v (d) Romania; (e) Yugoslavia v (f) West Germany; (g) Italy v (h) Great Britain; (i) France v (j) New Zealand; (k) Sweden v (l) Ecuador.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Home tie could be windfall for Invicta

By Keith Macklin

Kent Invicta, whose financial restructuring and debts were discussed at a management committee meeting yesterday, have the opportunity to earn much-needed cash in the first round tie of the John Player Trophy. The draw, made yesterday, gives Invicta a home game at Maidstone against one of the most famous sides in the first division, St Helens.

Although the Saints have not had the best of seasons so far, they are noted cup fighters and rank with Wigan, Leeds and Widnes as trophy hunters. Invicta's highest home gate so far was the 1,000 who saw the opening match against Cardiff City. With luck and good weather, the St Helens cup tie should bring in well over 2,000 spectators.

Fulham are less lucky. They are drawn away from home to the Wembley cup holders, Featherstone Rovers, but can take encouragement from the fact that Rovers are having a poor season in the first division. The outstanding tie of the first round is the meeting between Castleford and Hull, which are the finalists in Saturday's Yorkshire Cup final at Leeds.

Wigan, the holders, have been given a reasonably easy opening task in defence of the trophy. They are at home to the second division side, York who have made a moderate start to the season.

The Lancashire cup holders, Barrow, are riding the crest of a wave but they have missing players about the trip to Halifax. Bill Caine, the Barrow secretary, said yesterday: "Our record in matches at Halifax is not good."

Blackpool Borough are another lowly side who can take advantage of a good gate with the visit of Leeds; Rochdale Hornets are at home to Rochdale Hornets.

There is a preliminary round on October 23 featuring two matches: Batley v Doncaster and Whitehaven v Widnes. Widnes are likely to ask Whitehaven to switch the game to midweek. The first round proper will be played on the weekend of November 5 and 6.

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY: Preliminary round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. First round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Second round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Third round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Fourth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Fifth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Sixth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Seventh round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Eighth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Ninth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Tenth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Eleventh round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Twelfth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Thirteenth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Fourteenth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Fifteenth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Sixteenth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. 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Ninety-seventh round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Ninety-eighth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. Ninety-ninth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes. One hundredth round: Batley v Doncaster; Whitehaven v Widnes.



Gilks: taking a big step back into the fold after the wrangles

Badminton needs to make a fresh start

Grousing is over and a sport can take wing

By Richard Eaton

The resurrection of the Masters badminton tournament, starting today and finishing on Saturday, at a new venue, the Spectrum Arena, Warrington and with a new sponsor, Famous Grouse, is more than usually timely.

Four years ago this was the event that ushered in the professional era, and after a start in which the badminton made cautious but promising progress, the sport, surprisingly, became beleaguered and diverted. The last features and sponsors and television coverage, with the players that helped make England the third best badminton nation in the world complaining they had to make most of their money abroad and with one of them, Gillian Gilks, becoming involved with the Badminton Association of England in a long and costly wrangle.

It was the exclusion of Mrs Gilks, the former world No. 1 from the Masters that caused the trouble, and now that the problems have been settled out of court, Mrs Gilks is again taking part. The B.A. of E has cause to hope now for a happier and more solvent day. The event's new beginning is thus of symbolic significance.

The tournament returns after the television on Channel 4 of the World Championships in Copenhagen, the announcement of a series of international matches against the world's most improved badminton

country, South Korea, and the progress of the tournament, the reigning world champion, in his group.

Steve Baddeley, the joint England No. 1 faces the reigning All-England champion, Luan Jin, the European champion, Jens Peter Nielsen, and Misbun Sidek, the Malaysian No. 1 who is currently wearing a streak of blonde down the middle of his hair, following the Mohican head shave he sported some time ago. Perhaps this, intimidated his national association, which opposed his application to become a licensed player, but which has now apparently given way.

Baddeley had managed to beat him in the past, and Nielsen as well, so he is not without hope of making some impact, though the feeling persists that England's second No. 1, Nick Yates, who reached the last eight of the All-England, might have been a better bet than either Baddeley or Jolly.

Meanwhile, England's doubles hopes are reduced now that the redoubtable Nora Perry, twice a world championship gold medal winner, is pregnant, although Martin Daw has chances of two titles in partnership with two stalwarts, Mrs Gilks in the mixed doubles, Jane Webster, previously world doubles champion with Mrs Perry and world runner-up in Malaysia, the Indonesian, Irena has a scratch partner.

BOOK REVIEW

By Dennis Bird

Exuding the authentic atmosphere of the ice rink

John Hennessy, a former sports editor of *The Times* and its present skating correspondent, has covered the sport of ice skating since 1960 and Miss Torvill, and the friendship which has developed between the three of them over the years has resulted in a happy and intimate collaboration. In the background a fourth participant is ever-present - Betty Callaway, the calm and wise trainer who has guided the brilliant couple to the most prestigious success in ice dancing history, and knows more than any one how it was done.

Dean and Miss Torvill have won two European titles and have been world champions since 1981. The book is a rare degree of originality, technique, dexterity and physical daring to their sport.

The book explores the complex relationship between the two skaters, and at the end, each has a

chapter of uninhibited comment on the other. "Quarrels are inevitable when you are doing something creative," I cannot match his brand of sarcasm. "Chris 'I think we fell in love and out again.' The picture that emerges is of two attractive young people, formerly rather shy, who have matured until an almost telepathic understanding exists between them on the ice."

Lawrence Demmy, a former world champion and now chairman of the International Skating Union, comments, puts it neatly: "If one of them makes a slight mistake, the other can almost match it at the same time so that it probably goes unnoticed."

Hennessy has cast his net wide in seeking information; he has talked with judges, trainers, administrators, team managers, and others involved, including the actor

Michael Crawford, who helped develop the memorable "Barnum" programme. The book contains a wealth of interesting technical details, and a few amusing anecdotes, but the authentic atmosphere of the ice rink.

There is little about the champions' childhood and family life, but the book contains a wealth of interesting technical details, and a few amusing anecdotes, but the authentic atmosphere of the ice rink.

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TABLE TENNIS

Testing time for England

By a Special Correspondent

England have their most formidable encounter of the season as they take on Sweden in the second European Superleague match at Sunderland tonight.

In Mikael Appelgren, Jan-Ove Waldner and Erik Lindberg, Sweden have the players who finished first, second and third in the world cup in Barbados last month. These three, aged 22, 17 and 19 respectively, are improving at such a prodigious rate that they are challenging China as the top table tennis nation.

But Carl Preen, the England number one aged 16, scored one win over Waldner in Barbados, and if he and Desmond Douglas, the English national champion, both hit their next form England have a hope. Victory would make talk of the European Superleague title realistic. England have added two players to the three who won four-three in Poland last month. Graham Sandley may take over as double partner to fellow leithander Douglas and Lisa Bellinger, 16, will challenge with national champion Karen Wain for both the mixed doubles and the singles places. Marie Lindblad, an all out forehand attacker, will play women's singles for Sweden.

Dutch cyclist move
Hilversum (AFP) - Gerrie Kneizmann, the Dutch cyclist, has transferred from the Raleigh to the Belgium Europ-Decor team.

BOXING: Kieran Joyce, 19, holder of the Irish ABA welterweight title, has pulled out of the Rest of Europe amateur boxing team for the World Cup in Rome at the weekend suffering from an arm injury.

SQUASH RACKETS

Zaman determined to bring down Jahangir

Auckland (Reuters) - Qamar Zaman, of Pakistan, said yesterday that he was as ready as he could be to take on the world champion, Jahangir Khan in today's final of the world squash championship here. He vowed at the start of the year that he would end the run of victories by Jahangir, aged 30, who has not lost a match in 31 months.

But he fell victim to him in three major finals this year, the Irish Open, the French Open and the International Squash Players Association Championship. Each time he was down by three sets to one.

"I've been losing to Jahangir for two or three years now," said Qamar, who is 23. "So this year I have decided to train harder than ever before. This summer, I ran for three months, five to six miles a day. That is a lot for me - I used to run only half a mile. I say to myself, 'I'm going to beat him this year and so far I've had good results.'"

Jahangir said: "I am confident enough at the moment not to care who I play. I'll just try to play my length, eliminate mistakes. I'm happy I am playing as well as I can."

Qamar admitted that his propensity to go for winners had cost him dearly against Jahangir, but he said he would not change his tactics. "It will take a shot-maker to beat Jahangir," he said. "I can't go on and rally away. Even if I try to tell myself to rally, I see a ball sit up in the air and I want to go for a tick. I will try to make him run. He's a human being, and if he runs he will get tired like anyone. But I will always go for my shot."

Jahangir reached the final by beating Stu Davenport of New Zealand 9-4, 9-2, 9-0 in a match

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Applicants should have a good knowledge of German, be able to type accurately, have a pleasant telephone manner and methodical mind. Both positions offer excellent salaries and fringe benefits. Please telephone or write to:

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Wellbank Public Relations Ltd
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| 25-34 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 35-44 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 45-54 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 55-64 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 65+ | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |

